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## Electric Railway Signalling.

By Frederick Fish, Electrical Engineer Sargent Automatic Railway Signal Co.

### II.

In a previous article we have considered the general idea of block signals and their use where they were controlled by track circuits operated by the passing trains and when the signals were moved by operators by levers in the towers connected to the semaphore arms by wires running on pulleys somewhat after the fashion of an old style mechanical bell pull. But improvement is the order of the age, and electricity, which in the earlier systems simply controlled the movements of the signal blade by locking and unlocking the levers, was next used to operate a valve which changed the position of the signal arm by means of compressed air, and is now called upon not only to energize the controlling magnets but to furnish power, by means of an electric motor, to move the semaphore blades from one position to another.

In the present article we will consider the intermediate step in this process, that is, the automatic electric-pneumatic systems, where compressed air furnishes the power and electricity controls it, leaving the consideration of the straight automatic electric system for the last chapter of this series.

We will suppose that we have three blocks with rails insulated from each other by having nothing between them of better

conductivity than the ties (and I would say in passing that enough good wet ties are a pretty good conductor) and with the track circuits of the different blocks insulated from each other as shown in sketch Fig. II, at A, B, C and D. The best practice is to insulate both rails as shown in

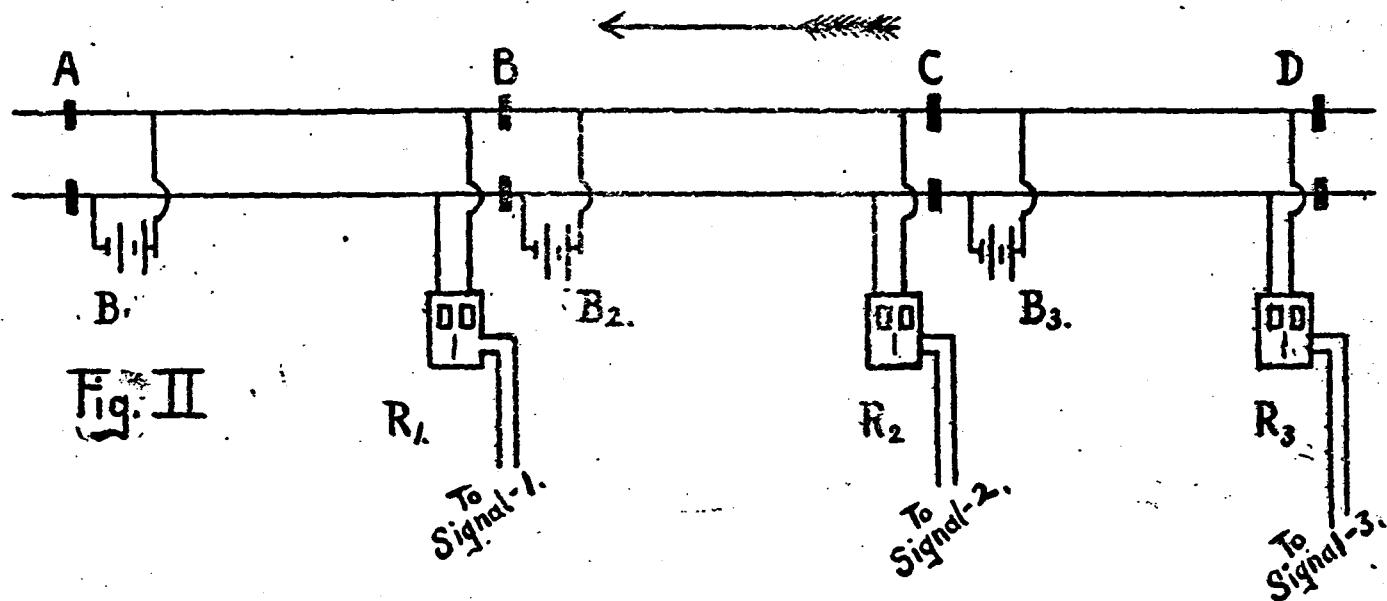


GRAND TREASURER P. H. WISSINGER.

sketch, but the track men don't like fire or wood to hold heavy steel rails in place with, and in consequence on many roads they insulate only one rail and leave the other as common or "ground" wire.

It is very easy to say insulate the rails as per sketch, but it isn't always so easy in practice. For instance, the writer was recently called upon to make an estimate on a single track through a tunnel about 4000 feet long. Water soaking through the earth above keeps dripping down onto the ties and rails. I don't believe that the underwriters would ever pass the insulation that we will get in a place like that. Another source of continual annoyance to the signal electrician, at least until he gets the trackmen thoroughly "wise to the business," is switch points and tie plates. The switches are bolted across from one rail to the other and one rail crosses diagonally to the frog. The usual practice is to put insulating joints on each side of the switch on the rail with the frog in it and then connect around this with covered wire. The tie plate is a small piece of pressed steel, and made to go on the tie under the rail, so that the rail will not cut into the tie by the pressure of heavy trains bumping along over them. It's all right there and a great scheme but after you have your two rails well insulated, the track foreman gets an idea that those two ends are cutting into the tie too much, and to brace up the insulating joint he will just slip a tie plate under the joint so that the two rails can rest on it nicely.

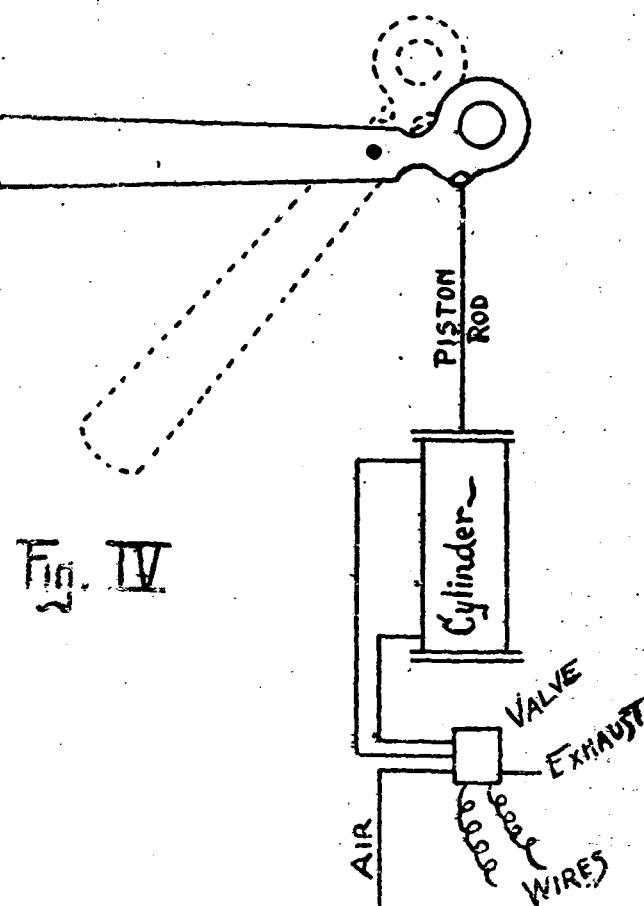
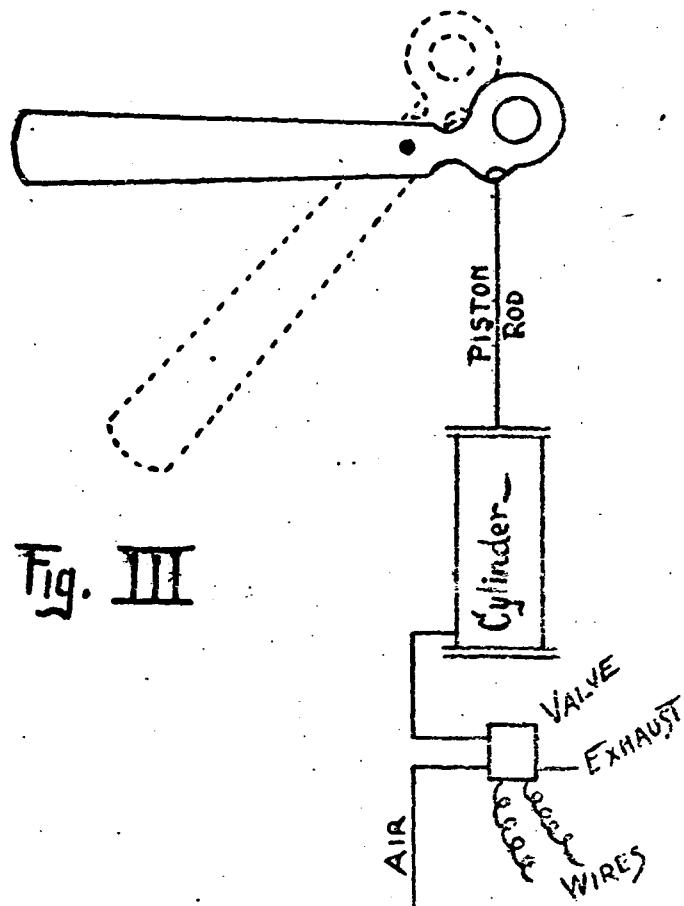
If the combination is such that the rails only touch the tie plate as a train passes, there will be some great trouble hunting in the electrical department.



The sketch, Fig. II, shows the connections for three blocks as usually installed. First, block track circuit A B, consisting of Battery B 1, with its terminals connected directly to the rails at one end of the block, and Relay R 1 connected to the two rails at the opposite end of the same block. When the rails are properly insulated, current flows from Battery B 1 through one rail to Relay R 1 and back through the other rail to the battery. The Relay R 1 controls the signal located at B 1, trains supposed to be moving in

direction shown by arrow, by means of mechanism to be described further on. As long as the block is clear of trains, Relay R 1 stays closed and signal shows clear, "go ahead;" but as soon as a train enters upon the insulated rails the relay is short circuited by the wheels and axles and comes open, changing the signal to danger, "stop," where it remains as long as a pair of wheels stays on that block. As soon as the train has passed completely off the block the relay closes once more and "clears" the signal.

In order to increase the conductivity of the track and to provide against the possibility of rusted joints, the track is bonded same as an electric railway, except that the bond wires are usually iron wire (about No. 8 B. & S.) in place of copper. They are fastened to the rails by drilling a 9-32 hole and then riveted to the rail or stuck into the drilled hole and fastened by a channel pin, which is a tapered steel pin about an inch in length and with a cross-section similar to a letter C. This drives alongside the wire and fastens it quickly and firmly.



If this blocking is on a double-track road, so that trains are moving only in direction of arrow on this track, a signal at B is all that is required; but if it is a single track that trains move both ways over, there must be a signal at A also to hold trains moving from A to B. This signal is called an auxiliary and is operated by a second relay at R 1, and connected with it by one or two overhead wires, usually two. Then a train moving in either direction while it is on block A B, prevents another train from entering the block A B by the two signals, one at the A end and the other at the B end of the block.

Blocks B C and C D are arranged in a precisely similar manner and other blocks continue the system as far as may be necessary.

The operation of the electro-pneumatic system beyond the track relays is shown in diagram in Figs. III and IV.

There are two distinct methods of applying the air pressure to operate semaphore blades.

Fig. III shows the gravity return system, the air only changing the signal one way, and gravity moving it back. The air pressure is furnished by a tap off the main supply pipe leading to the valve, where it is stopped by the valve action as long as current comes over the line controlled by track relay previously described. The weight of the signal arm or a counter-weight (depending on whether the signal arm moves up or down from normal position) holds the piston and its rod down to the bottom of their stroke. As soon as current is shut off the valve action by the track relay, the air pressure is admitted to the cylinder and the exhaust is closed, thus forcing up the piston and by means of the piston rod changing position of signal. The air pressure continues to hold up the piston until such time as the current is again turned on to the valve. When air pressure is shut off, exhaust is opened and the signal falls back to its normal "danger" position by its own weight or the counter-weight, thus forcing back the piston to its first position, where it is ready to set the signal again to clear when it gets another supply of air pressure.

With the air return system, as diagrammed in Fig. IV, the cylinder piston is forced both ways by the air pressure and the valve action is very similar to the slide valve of an ordinary steam engine. The air supply is furnished as before by a tap off the main pressure pipes, but instead of being turned on and off as in the gravity return it is simply switched, in the manner of a "3-wire" or "pilot" electric light switch, from upper to lower ends of the cylinder, back and forth. The valve at the same time switches the exhaust so that it is always closed on the side of the air pressure and always open on the opposite

side of the piston head. This piston head therefore moves up or down as the track relay controlling the valve is opened or closed by passing trains or moving of switches, and by means of the piston rod always carries the signal arm with it. There are some installations where signals are controlled from signal towers by the operators, where the valves are operated by the air pressure instead of by electricity. When the operator wishes to move a signal to clear he simply turns air into the control pipe, and then puts it to danger, when necessary, by opening a cock and letting the pressure out of the control pipe, which operates the valve by a diaphragm and lets the air out of the cylinder, which throws the signals similar to the action described in Fig. III.

It is an open and much mooted question which of the two systems described above is the better for signal work. There is much that could be said on both sides, but I will only consider one argument on each side. When the signal arm is moved both ways by the air pressure there is a much greater force tending to move it than when moved one way by gravity, so that it moves quicker and stronger. On the other hand if it fails to work it may be left either in the danger or the safety positions, and this is a bad feature, as the signal should always show a danger signal when it shows wrong at all, and when it is held to "safety" by the air pressure, as in Fig. III, it will of course fall to "danger" if the air supply fails or a wire breaks. Gravity never takes a day off or gets full and if you can only get your apparatus hitched to it firmly, you are pretty sure to move (or pay your rent.)

Crossing safety appliances to warn the public of danger may be divided into three parts: First and best, overhead crossings; second, watchmen and gates; third, automatic bells to ring as train approaches.

There is a big gap in efficiency between the second and third methods of protection, and it is with a view to filling this gap and placing automatic bells somewhere near the efficiency of gates with a watchman to operate them that this device was designed. Normally the two arms, which together are twelve feet in length, are at an angle of about 45 degrees to the top of the sign board, and the lantern on the top shows a white light up and down the highway. When a train is approaching the crossing from either direction the arms come to a horizontal position parallel with sign board, the white lights change to red, and a gong rings continuously until train has passed, when the gong stops and the arm and lights go back to their original position. The motion is made by means of an electric motor in the signal head, controlled by a track relay, as will be more fully described next month.

The gong used with this form of signal

is quite a novelty in some respects. It is operated as follows: A solenoid similar to those in use in arc lamps raises up a heavy core about  $\frac{1}{4}$  of an inch when the circuit breaker opens and the core falls back on the gong. As the strength of blow depends only on the weight of the falling core, it will make an equally hard blow with 3 cells as with 15 cells. The only difference being in the speed with which the blows are struck on the gong. Consequently the bell is not likely to get out of adjustment, which is an important thing in a case where the failure of the signal to work may mean the loss of life.

#### Treasurer's Report for November.

Postage Stamps . . . . .	\$ 10 00
Revenue Stamps . . . . .	5 00
Case for Mailing List . . . . .	7 50
Thos. Wheeler, Expense Auditing	
Secy's Books . . . . .	25 30
P. H. Wissinger, Expense Auditing	
Secy's Books . . . . .	81 76
Death Claim No. 86, Jas. Buntree .	100 00
J. J. Ernisse, Emblematic Buttons .	48 85
No. 3, St. Louis, on account Appropriation . . . . .	100 00
Mailing November Worker . . . . .	9 79
Printing " " . . . . .	157 50
Printing Supplies Local Unions .	11 95
Chauncey Mills, Addressing and Wrapping E. W.'s 6 months .	6 00
H. W. Sherman, Nov. Salary . . .	75 00
M. K. Clinton, Nov. Salary . . . .	25 00
Office Rent for December . . . . .	6 25
P. C. to A. F. of L. for Nov. & Dec.	13 33
Treasurer's Bond for 1900 . . . . .	25 00
Secretary's Bond for 1900 . . . . .	5 00
Cashing Checks . . . . .	2 00
F. C. Sprague, Soliciting Ads E. W.	5 40
Thos. Wheeler, Organizing Akron, O	8 00
Expressage . . . . .	8 53
J. R. Bourne, making Seals . . . .	9 50
F. B. Williams, additional Printing Convention . . . . .	3 50
Printing and Office Supplies . . .	26 39
P. H. Wissinger, Exp. Organizing .	68 83
Total . . . . .	\$845 38
Cash on hand Nov. 1 . . . . .	\$5,311 19
Receipts for November . . . . .	1,153 00
	\$6,464 19
Expenses for November . . . . .	845 38
Bal. cash on hand . . . . .	\$5,618 81

P. H. WISSINGER,  
Grand Treasurer.

AT last a champion of the telephone pole has appeared. For years this useful upholder of the means of communication has been denounced as cumbersome and unsightly. It has been tolerated for utilitarian reasons, but few persons professed to admire it. But now comes a gentleman in Delevan, Wis., who writes to his local paper to protest against the removal of the

telephone poles in a certain street. So far from doing away with the unoffending poles this intrepid defender of the unappreciated points out that there is room for two or three rows of the poles if required. His only stipulation is that the poles be nicely painted. "Let them alone," says the pole partisan; "they give a business appearance to our city. They show to visitors and outsiders that somebody lives here and is at home." And thus a new argument is given to the telephone man in the small town. The poles will show that somebody lives there and is at home.

#### CONVENTION PHOTOGRAPHS.

Allegheny, Pa., Dec. 7, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

I feel compelled to say something in behalf of Bro. Evans and myself on account of the pictures of delegates. In the first place, I hope by the time this Worker reaches you the pictures will have been framed and hanging on the wall, as at this writing I have mailed twenty of them and the job will soon be finished. I will have to state No. 5 was bungoed in great shape with no one to blame but—well, I guess it is not necessary to state. Nevertheless, the agreement entered into verbally was so violated that you would think a cyclone struck it. The extra cost has made all satisfied that we don't want any more such flimsy contracts, but I will state for the benefit of all, any one wishing one of these pictures by sending cash and order to our Recording Secretary will secure it at once. I will state for the benefit of brothers who wished me to have their pictures sent C. O. D. that as they have already cost fifteen cents more apiece than we thought, it would be a good deal easier for all if the cash could be sent with the order. Well, the excitement has died out, the convention was here and has gone, nothing remains but the memory of a good jolly crowd and a hope that we may see them all some day again. I have heard that some conventions drained the treasury to the last cent of the hospitable entertaining local; well, I don't think it hurt us very much, as Local No. 5 will move into a hall of her own the first of Jan., 1900, and it will be known as Electrical Workers' Hall, and all the furniture will be of the best. The convention was a heavy drain on Local 5's treasury, as she received no assistance from the other two locals, as they were too young to build up any treasury, but let me whisper a minute, No. 5 feels kind of proud of her success in handling the convention and hopes the winning local for the next convention will have this motto, "We will go you one better," and we all wish them success in their undertaking and once more I will mention that any one wishing a picture will please order direct of the local's secretary, Frank Lunny, 610 E. Robinson

st., Allegheny. Wishing all success, I will close up and go home and dream over some of the blessings I have received over those photos.

F. H. WILSDEN.

#### Secretary's Report for November.

No. P.C.	Init.	Supp.	Batt.	Asses.	Total
1	\$23.90	\$4.00			\$27.90
2				85, \$1.00	1.00
3	12.20	14.00			26.20
4	11.40	2.00	\$1.50		14.90
5	12.20	2.00	2.25		16.45
6	22.20	32.00			54.20
7	21.20	10.00	2.00	84,5,6, 3.00	36.20
8				85, 1.00	1.00
9	36.40	24.00	2.25		62.65
10	15.40	6.00	50	1.50	23.40
12	12.20			\$1.00	13.20
14	1.40	7.00			8.40
18			8.25	86, 1.00	9.25
19	4.80				4.80
20	8.20	12.00	3.50		23.70
21	22.00	11.00	2.50		35.50
23	7.20	3.00	1.00		14.20
26	19.40	5.00	30		24.70
27	46.40	8.00			54.40
29	13.85	21.00	4.00		38.80
30	3.60	3.00		50	7.10
32	4.00			84,5,6, 3.00	7.00
34	4.20				4.20
36	4.00			84,5,6, 3.00	7.00
37	8.80	6.00		86, 1.50	16.30
38	18.60	4.00			22.60
39	14.60	3.00		86, 1.50	19.10
40	8.20	4.00	50	1.00	13.70
41	16.40	2.00			18.40
42	3.80		25	3.00	7.05
43				84,5,6, 3.00	3.00
44	28.60	10.00			38.60
45	18.00	6.00			24.00
46	10.40	2.00		1.00	13.40
47	8.40	2.00	50		10.90
49	2.40	4.00	25		6.65
51	9.00	1.00	1.50	84,5,6, 3.00	14.50
52	30.00			86, 3.00	33.00
53	3.20	4.00	1.50	83, 1.00	9.70
54			7.80		7.80
56	9.20	2.00	1.00	86, 1.00	13.20
57	8.20	4.00			12.20
58	10.80			86, 1.00	11.80
59	5.00	8.00	1.50		14.50
60	12.20	6.00	3.50	4.00	25.70
61	3.60			84,5,6, 3.00	6.60
62	10.00	6.00			16.00
63	1.80		50		2.30
66	7.40	14.00	50	50	22.40
67	3.20	6.00		1.00	10.20
68	6.40	10.00		86, 1.00	17.40
69	2.20	8.00			10.20
70	3.40		3.50	84,5,6, 3.00	9.90
72	4.20	2.00	50		6.70
73				1.00	1.00
74	3.00			3.00	6.00
75	7.20	18.00	3.50	86, 1.00	29.70
76				86, 1.00	1.00
77	6.80	2.00		86, 1.00	9.80
78	6.00	2.00			8.00
81	3.60	4.00			7.60
82				40	40
84	8.20	4.00	2.00		14.20
86	27.00				27.00
87	11.00				11.00
88	11.00		4.75		15.75
89	8.00				8.00

\$654.50 \$326.80 \$50.70 \$5.50 \$55.50 \$1093.40

Advertising in Worker . . . . . \$40.00

Dues from members of lapsed I. U. . . . . 19.00

Supplies not sold through L. U. . . . . 60

CHARTERS GRANTED IN NOV.	
Nov. 8. Philadelphia, Pa.	No. 21
" 15. Rochester, N.Y., inside wire-men	85
" 20. Newark, N.Y.	" 87
" 24. Savannah, Ga.	" 88
" 29. Akron, O.	" 89

#### In Memoriam.

Resolutions adopted by Local No. 37, of Hartford :

Whereas, God, in his infinite wisdom, has taken from this life the wife of our worthy Brother, Thomas Hyland;

Resolved, That Local 37, of the National Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, through the organization, extend its sincere sympathy to our brother in his loss; and be it further

Resolved, That these resolutions be spread upon our minutes, a copy be presented the brother, and that they be published in our official journal.

F. J. SHEEHAN,

H. DEMME,

A. RINK.

Resolutions adopted by Local 27:

Whereas, It has pleased Almighty God to take from our midst Brother William E. Taylor, November 7th, 1899, therefore be it

Resolved, That the Brotherhood and our local have lost a good and faithful brother; his wife, a kind and loving husband.

Resolved, That we extend to his wife and family our sincere and heartfelt sympathy in the loss we have all sustained.

Resolved, That copies of these resolutions be forwarded to his wife and family, that a copy be framed and hung in our hall and that they be published in the journal of the Brotherhood.

WM. A. YOUNG,

W. W. WELSH,

J. P. JONES,

Committee.

#### FUNERAL OBSEQUIES.

Editor Electrical Worker:

I wish to write a few words of commendation of one of our sister locals. Knowing that the November Worker would be crowded with Convention matters, I held my remarks for the December issue.

In the obsequies of our late Bro. Joseph Buntée, No. 9 did her duty as usual; and though the rain fell in torrents, the members turned out in large numbers, accompanied by their ladies.

The body was shipped to Des Moines, Ia., for burial, and in the excitement and sorrow of the hour a notice to L. U. 55 was forgotten. A few of No. 55's members learned of the matter through relatives of our deceased brother, and made hasty arrangements to receive the body and mourners in a befitting manner. This they did, I can assure you.

The body arrived in Des Moines at 8:30 a. m. and funeral services were held at 3 p. m. In the short time between those hours the entire resident membership of No. 55 was notified to attend the funeral. The companies employing these men granted leave of absence to every man they could possibly spare without crippling their business, and to say that No. 55 did not do her duty would be telling the most bare-faced lie ever uttered.

The willingness of all the companies in granting leave of absence to their men, and the promptness of No. 55's members in turning out to their duty, is evidence of the harmony existing between Local Union No. 55 and the Des Moines wire-using companies, and also the readiness of No. 55's members to do their duty always and everywhere. Were all locals thus loyal the N. B. E. W. of A. would be an organization second to none.

In behalf of the officers and members of Local Union No. 9 I wish to express sincere thanks to Local Union No. 55 for her assistance in the obsequies, so nobly performed.

C. WARREN BEACH.

**CARD OF THANKS.**

**Editor Electrical Worker:**

I desire to express, through the columns of your paper, my sincere thanks to the National Brotherhood of Electrical Workers for the funeral benefit so promptly remitted, for my late husband, Joseph Buntee, and also to the members of Local Unions No. 9 of Chicago, and No. 55 of Des Moines, Ia., for their kindly care and gentle ministrations in the hour of my affliction.

The comfort of the consoling words, which came from their lips like rays of light from a Heaven of Peace, made my burden easier to bear, parted the clouds and gloom of sorrow's night, revealing the stars shining beyond.

No nobler virtue warms the human heart than gratitude, and I assure you all,—brothers of my husband,—that the esteem in which you held him does not exceed my esteem and affection for you.

MRS. JOSEPH BUNTEE.

**ECONOMICS.**

**Editor Electrical Worker:**

I see by the Electrical Worker that the resolution committee at the convention has adopted the resolution to devote a portion of our journal to the discussion of economic questions. The proposition was submitted by a delegate from No. 16.

I am so much in favor of the resolution that I cannot refrain from at least extending my hearty congratulations to the delegate and to the resolution committee for the introduction of the subject in which I think lies the only true solution by which the serious difficulties between labor

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and capital can ever be permanently settled. So, by way of getting the subject started and hoping that all brothers will become interested enough to give the matter some study, I will offer a few suggestions which I hope will at least start some argument or debate which may lead to investigation, which is the true source of knowledge. Some more able writers and debaters on the subject than myself may take the matter up and give a great deal of useful information and practical examples of the application of municipal ownership and management of affairs that concern the masses of the people.

For my part I sincerely believe that the time is not far distant when the principal business of this country will be owned and managed by the Government.

The Government then will mean the people, which it is supposed to mean at the present time, but instead represents a class of special privileged characters, in many instances like our street railway companies here, who force their men to run cars through the city streets at any rate necessary to make the trips in an unreasonably short time, use as few cars as they see fit, pack people in like sardines in a can, charge what they see fit, kill as many people as is necessary with so few cars and high speed; while the people who have to put up with these things and pay their money to enrich the company have nothing to say as to rules and regulations governing such a corporation.

There are places where the street railway companies are not so much privileged as in Detroit and it is hopeful that in the

near future we will have some advancement in the regulation of this affair.

As near as I can ascertain, the number killed by the street cars here this year is twenty-five, besides the serious injuries that have not ended in death.

Some of my readers may think I am drifting from the subject of economics, but it seems to me the example I have cited is strictly the result of our economic policy or political economy.

Sincerely hoping that we will reach the time when we may enjoy the benefits resulting from civilization the same as the man of money and that we will get value received in proportion to what we produce, and that the subject of the production and distribution of wealth, the means and methods of living well, for the state, the family and the individual, will receive due attention from the Electrical Worker and brothers in general.

There is much more that I would like to mention on this subject, but for lack of time will close for the present.

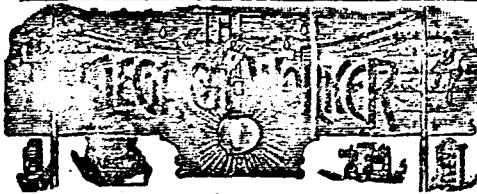
Yours fraternally,

**E. ANTHONY,**  
Local No. 17,  
Detroit, Mich.

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Subscription \$1.00 per year, in advance.

As The Electrical Worker reaches the men who do the work and recommend or order the material, its value as an advertising medium can be readily appreciated.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., DECEMBER, 1899.

W. N. Gates, Special Advertising Agent,  
29 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, O.



## PECULIAR RULINGS.

The men who are engaged in the very hazardous occupation of handling electricity are surprised at the peculiar rulings of some of our learned judges. Not many weeks ago a certain judge ruled that the lineman should inspect every pole before he climbed it. The case in point was where a pole broke off below the surface of the ground and fell with a lineman on it, crippling him for life. There never was a clearer case than this. The pole broke, the man was hurt. Witnesses swore the same pole had been condemned a year before and reported, but in spite of all this evidence this well-fed, warmly-housed judge non-suited the case. Is it any wonder that a poor, homeless wanderer wrote these lines :

"Go in your court rooms  
Where juries are paid,  
To render decisions already made,  
Go there among that clan  
And see if you can find any justice to a  
moneyless man.

Suppose the case had been a little different. Just at the time the pole snapped off one of our rich men was driving past and the same pole had killed his beautiful span of

short-tailed horses valued at \$1,000. Would he have got a nonsuit? We rather think not. Just as sure as the sun rises and sets, the rich man would have received the price of his team. Is it any wonder men are constantly crying down such rulings as these? Just imagine a lineman making a thorough inspection of every pole he climbs. To get under the surface he would have to carry a crow bar and dig down and find out whether the pole was rotten or not. I can see the lineman's finish who would stop to make an examination. Why, he would not last an hour with the average foreman. The question arises can these rulings go on forever? Will there never come a time when justice will be dealt out to all alike? Let us hope so at any rate. This is but one of many foolish rulings. Another one that comes forcibly to our mind is this: A Judge in a Massachusetts court ruled that a labor organization had no right to tell its members not to patronize a certain firm. In free America a man can't spend his money where he likes and tell his neighbor to do the same. He dare not try to make some flint-hearted, money-grasping man pay a living rate of wages. Let some poor, half-starved man steal a loaf of bread, how quick that same judge would send him up. We do not want to be considered anarchistic by any means. We love our country, but simply enter a protest against some wrongs.

## HERO WORSHIP.

A year ago there landed in New York city a man whose name had become a household word all over the civilized globe. Men, women and children were hurrahing for brave Bill Anthony, he who was so cool and collected in the face of danger when the battleship Maine was blown to atoms. When he showed his bravery that night, all America sung praises to brave Bill Anthony. He was banqueted, lauded and feasted. All honor to brave Bill Anthony. A year passes, a transformation takes place. A man drinks poison in Central Park. The officers run to save him. Too late! He has drained the bottle; he falls. The officers ask who he is. They are told, "Why that's Bill Anthony, one of the survivors of the Maine." "Why did he commit suicide," is asked on all sides. This is explained in his letter to his wife—starvation, want. That's what made him drink the poison. Within a stone's throw of riches and splendor, where there is enough wasted every day to feed many men one of our heroes kills himself because he could not get enough to feed himself and family. When the news was carried to that poor widow of her poor husband's act, what was her feeling? None of us know only those who have tasted of the wormwood and gall. Her husband dead in New York, she in another part of the state, with no money to go to look on his

face for the last time. There came to her rescue one of God's own men who gave her the money, and as she stood over the remains of him who was her all in life she could but say "Poor Bill Anthony." It had ceased to be "Brave Bill Anthony," but was then "Poor Bill Anthony."

## MISTAKES.

Through a typographical error, St. Louis was omitted from the proceedings of our last convention as one of the cities for our next convention. No matter how careful one is with this kind of work, mistakes will happen. There slipped through the proof reader's hand on one of the largest papers in the United States an advertisement that, had the same thing gone through the hands of the editor of this paper, would have caused a great amount of kicking. Mistakes will happen and we must allow for some. When they occur point them out, not in a vindictive way but in a brotherly way, and then they can be rectified. A separate slip will be submitted to each local with the names of each city placed in nomination for our next convention, then all that is necessary is to mark the city and return to the general office. The vote on the amendments should be in by January 1st as we wish to have the Constitution out as soon as possible. All locals which have not voted will kindly do so at once.

ANY one knowing the whereabouts of Otto Guest, will please communicate with the general office.

EX-GRAND PREST. Bro. J. H. Maloney, has been selected as delegate to represent the Brotherhood at the Convention of the National Building Trades Council, to be held at Milwaukee, Jan. 8. As we are now affiliated with that body, and Bro. Maloney is thoroughly conversant with needs of the electrical workers, the selection was a good one.

OUR Grand Treasurer is now assisting 2d Vice-Prest. Sheehan in organizing the New England States. With the work in such efficient hands we shall have a thriving organization in the near future.

OUR Grand President, Bro. Tom Wheeler, has been selected to represent the Brotherhood in the A. F. of L. Convention. That it is in good hands goes without saying, here is wishing you luck, Uncle Tom.

## THE NEXT CONVENTION.

The official proceedings of our last Convention failed to have the city of St. Louis among the nominees for our next Convention. This mistake was corrected in last month's Worker. There had been nothing sent out in regard to this. We submitted the amendments to the constitution as soon as possible, knowing that it would

take some time to get returns. Up to now, we have 2 votes on the Convention matter, one for St. Louis, and one for Indianapolis, so there is no need for a new vote. Locals will vote for their choice and submit it to the general office. In the meantime hurry the vote on amendments.

#### OUR NEXT CONVENTION.

The following cities were placed in nomination for our next Convention, to be held in 1901: Indianapolis, Ind.; Omaha, Neb.; Detroit, Mich.; St. Louis, Mo. Members of locals will kindly vote on these and submit the choice as soon as possible.

December 9, 1899.

To the officers and members of the N. B. E. W. of A.:

An error having occurred in the convention proceedings by which St. Louis was omitted from the list of cities that were nominated as places for holding the convention of 1901, it is therefore my order that an election be held and a ballot be taken to the end that all may have a full vote and a fair count. It is also my order that a slip be sent out with the cities on it and that action thereon and on the amendments be taken and the result returned to the general office before January 1, 1900. This order is given to enable the G. S. to have published the new Constitutions and other supplies of which we are very much in need.

THOS. WHEELER, G. P.

#### LET US HELP EACH OTHER.

Dec. 10, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

I sincerely hope that the brothers have not forgotten the appeal made in the June and September Worker for the benefit of our worthy brother Harvey Burnett, of Kansas City. This has been a year of prosperity to most of us and it would seem fitting that at the close of such a year, that out of the goodness of our hearts and as a sacrifice to a benevolent Providence, we should each take from a well-filled treasury a sum sufficient to enable this unfortunate brother to enjoy a Christmas such as he never enjoyed before. I know your sleep will be as sound, your dreams as sweet, and that your hearts will be as gay when the Christmas bells ring, and if by chance the bugle of death shall sound the taps of some of us now in the ranks of the organized Brotherhood before the sun shall have set on the 19th century, I believe he

will enter the valley of the shadow far happier by applying the golden rule to himself and Bro. Burnett.

Fraternally,

THOS. WHEELER.

#### SCAB LIST.

Names of Persons Who Worked Against the Brotherhood at Cleveland.

#### CUYAHOGA TELEPHONE.

Nelson.  
James.  
\*Wm. Crossley, Cincinnati, lineman.  
Wm. Colby, "  
\*Robinson, "  
Andy Hiram, "  
Std. Spence, "  
Wm. Bennett, "  
Wm. Griffiths, "  
C. W. Freahr, " and Peoria, Ill.  
\*Wm. Alder, Columbus, lineman.  
\*Frank Grove, Columbus, lineman.  
\*D. R. Davidson, St. Louis.  
Carter, " lineman.  
\*G. Cabanne, "  
\*R. Hurstburgh, "  
\*T. M. Corchran, "  
Dude Loughlin, "  
\*Ed. Delaney, "  
\*Frank Lewin, "  
\*R. W. Gage, "  
Bramhal, "  
Ollie (Red) Strausbury, Cleveland.  
W. F. Norton, "  
\*Ed. Cannon, No. 38 "  
A. Saum, "  
\*Cord Chapman, No. 38 "  
J. C. Quinn, " "  
\*Wm. Grant, "  
\*Nelson Wilson, "  
Arthur Taylor, "  
John McMahon, "  
Kid Loughlin, Covington, Ky.  
\*Chas. Philians, Lima, Ohio.  
\*Pearl Webb, Wabash, Ind.  
\*Fred Collaster, Grand Rapids, Mich., lineman.  
\*Ebey, Holland, Mich., lineman.  
Robert Pursegloore, Elyria, Lineman.  
Chas. Smith (one eyed) Upper Sandusky, Lineman.

#### CLEVELAND ELECTRIC RY. (Big Consolidated.)

\*Phil Akers, Local No. 45, Buffalo, N. Y.  
\*Steve Coyne, Local No. 38, Cleveland.  
\*James Holiday, Local No. 38, Cleveland.  
\*James Cummings, Local No. 9, Chicago.  
\*Burk, Milwaukee, Wis.  
\*Flynn, Grand Rapids, Mich.  
\*Smith,  
\*Pat Casey, Grand Rapids, Mich.  
Men Who Scabbed In St. Louis During No. 3's Strike.

#### MISSOURI-EDISON.

\*Jno. McGann, \*Frank Kelly,  
\*L. Baldwin, \*Dick Harris,  
\*Chas. Addleman, \*Harry Murphy,  
\*Joe Edwards, \*Frank Maher,  
\*Joe Aber, \*Walter Baldwin,  
Geo. McLaughlin, Harry Swarthing,

Fred Schantz, Tom Watts,  
Jack McCune, Jim Carr,  
Bill Kelly, Tony Burkle,  
Lee Cassavant, Frank Burns,  
Frank Widoe, Tim Murphy,  
Jas. Murphy, Chas. Pipes,  
Rube Smith, Del. Scott.

#### BELL TELEPHONE.

Chas. Phillips, Bill O'Dell,  
Geo. Johnson (scabby) Noah Maclamore,  
Frank Gocus, L. Hull,  
\*Mike Cunningham, Jim Breen,  
\*Chas. Johnson, Fred Obermiller,  
Frank Haverstraw, Bill Gillin,  
Jack Carson, Andy Gamble,  
Ed. W'rentine, Al. Hayslip,  
Bill Ogie, John Simons,  
Jno. (Baldy) Hamble, John Eiker,  
Jno. (Heckery) Darrab, Wm. Ingstrom,  
Henry Casey, \*Dick Lewis,  
Wm. Taben, Perry Manion,  
B. S. McCloskey, Jno. Dare,  
W. Davison, D. Davison,  
W. G. Fry (better known as Rube) J. Powers,  
J. Davison, C. Fuller,  
W. Cleland, Chas. Reynolds,  
W. Batterton, J. Hall,

#### KINLOCH TEL. CO.

B. Albaugh, Frank Lewin,  
Ed. Holman, Adolph Meyer,  
Frank Turner, A. Dock,  
Henry Hisserich, Ernest Dennison,  
William Stewart.

An asterisk (\*) before a name indicates that the scab was a member of the union.

## OUR LOCALS.

#### Local Union No. 1.

St. Louis, Dec. 3, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

In the pamphlet containing the proceedings of the Pittsburg Convention, and in circular sent to the unions calling for referendum vote, St. Louis was not mentioned as a candidate for the next Convention, although placed in nomination by the St. Louis delegation. This omission, however, was corrected in the last Worker, and if any unions had voted on place for holding next Convention without knowing that St. Louis was in the field, they can change their vote if they so desire. No. 1 has issued the following circular telling why the next Convention should be held in St. Louis:

To our Sister Unions, Greeting:

At our 6th biennial Convention, recently held in Pittsburg, the St. Louis delegation placed in nomination, as place for holding the next Convention, the city of St. Louis. As the referendum vote on this question will soon be taken, we desire to call your

## Central Manufacturing Co.

Chattanooga, Tenn.

Manufacturers and Dealers in

Yellow Pine Cross Arms, Locust Pins, Oak Pins, Electrical Moldings, Oak Brackets.

Large Stocks on Hand.

Delivered prices quoted, F. O. B. cars, your city, in any quantity. Write us.

attention to the many advantages offered by St. Louis as a convention city.

1st, Location—St. Louis is the most centrally located large city in the United States. While geographically it is considerably east of the center, the next census will place it very near the center of population. Our locals can be represented in St. Louis with smaller average mileage than in any other city.

2d, Railroads—St. Louis is the terminus of 27 competing railroads. This fact always assures low rates to St. Louis.

3d, A Convention City—There are more conventions held in St. Louis than in any other city in the United States—from the great conventions of political parties down to the smallest social gatherings, and all leave St. Louis convinced that it is the best convention city in the country.

4th, Publicity—The great St. Louis dailies are always friendly to labor organizations, and give special attention to conventions. St. Louis is on an equality with New York and Chicago as a news-gathering and distributing center for the Associated Press, which assures the greatest possible publicity to the Convention. This point should not be overlooked. How much did you find in your local papers about our last two conventions?

5th, Our Anniversary—1901 will be the 10th anniversary of the founding of the Brotherhood. What could be more fitting and logical than that the event should be celebrated in the city where the Brotherhood was organized. In the fall of 1891 four delegates, representing unions in Chicago, Toledo, Indianapolis and Evansville, met in St. Louis on invitation of Wiremen and Linemen's Union No. 5221, A. F. of L. This was the humble beginning of the N. B. E. W. of A. Since then the city in which the Brotherhood was organized has never had the pleasure of entertaining the delegates. The St. Louis Union now extends an invitation to the locals, and promises them, that if they decide to hold the next Convention in St. Louis, the delegates will be royally entertained, and the 10th anniversary of the Brotherhood celebrated in a manner that will do credit to the grand organization that had its humble origin in St. Louis ten years ago.

No. 1 voted in favor of 11 of the proposed amendments and against 10 of them.

Business has been good in St. Louis this fall, but the usual winter dullness will soon set in.

No. 1 gave its tenth annual ball on Nov. 18th, and like all previous balls given by No. 1, was a social and financial success. Much credit is due the committee that had the ball in charge, and particularly to the chairman, Bro. S. M. Keeble, who worked like a Trojan to make the ball a success.

Fraternally yours,

ELECTRON.

#### Local Union No. 4.

New Orleans, Nov. 27, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

We are going to do it, sure. We have rented the hall, seen the printer about the tickets, the invitations and programs, and made arrangements for the—ice water. You all know, by this time, that I am talking about the swell time the "liners" are going to have at the grand ball to be given on Dec. 31st by Local No. 4, N. B. E. W. We don't expect to go in sleighs, but we do expect to come home on "skates."

Bro. Al Blackford having resigned the chair, Bro. Frank Didisch is now presiding at our meetings. Bro. Blackford retired with the good will and esteem of the entire local, for reasons which were explained and considered entirely satisfactory.

Quite a number of visiting brothers have come in in the last few weeks. Work is very slack here; in fact, nothing in sight. The Carrollton people have laid off their whole construction gang and have no one but emergency men. The Edison Co. is still busy on their underground work, but their men are laying off waiting for poles. The Cumberland is not hiring anyone now; Postal has nothing in sight; Western Union still do their work with a band of "Shines." The Peoples' Co. have really more men than they want at present. They say want of material is partly the cause of this being so.

Taking things all around it looks very much as though work will be quiet here all winter. So, brothers, when you start for New Orleans, if you meet with a job that won't have too much frost on it, my best advice would be to stick until you can hear some better news.

Roll officers of No. 4:

President—Frank Didisch.

Vice-President—Tim Cronin.

R. S.—Harry Smith.

F. S.—H. W. Boyd.

Treas.—P. D. Markell.

Inspector—J. DeVoe.

Yours respectfully,

H. W. BOYD,

Press Sec.

#### Local Union No. 6.

San Francisco, Cal., Nov. 28, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

I take this chance of a little time to drop a line to the brothers. I just returned from Manila and Japan on the 23rd. I went across the pond as electrician on the U. S. transport Belgian King. Had a very fine trip and saw Manila, with all its queer ways and stinks. The Philippines may be all right for the natives, but it's a poor place for a white man. Otis is the whole thing and he has no use for anyone who has a mind of his own. He will not hire anyone but natives on the mosquito fleet and the engineers and crew donate a por-

tion of their pay to Aggie's army. If we open the United States as a dumping ground for Philippine-Americans, God help the poor slave already here. A native wears next to nothing and can live on two cents worth of rice a day and about three cents worth of fish (which he catches himself). I hope they will be left to govern themselves; we want none of them. I saw Brother Harry Lempke on the transport Aztec. He was looking fat, tough and sassy. We took over 845 soldiers and officers without a mishap. We left Manila Oct. 25 for Frisco by way of Nagasaki, Japan, where the Japs loaded on 1600 tons of coal by hand, in small baskets, passing it up the side of the ship. Six gangs of Japs or about 300 of them put the coal on in 20 hours, for which they receive, girls and women, 25 cents a day American; the men, 40 cents a day in our money, very much the best wages paid there. In the factories in Japan I was informed the average girl's wages is five cents a day, gold, and after paying their board have two cents a day left. What a h— of a time they must have blowing it in. Just imagine an American factory girl going down Main street in Rochester with her 12 cents on Saturday night to do her shopping, and if we let the Japs emigrate to these shores, that's just what we may see some day. The fact cannot be denied that the Japs are driving the white man off the ranches in California and the house servant also is being replaced by Japs. Japan is certainly the most beautiful country on the globe, one mass of flowers and fruits, the hills are terraced to the top. Every available foot of ground is used for something. We left Nagasaki on Nov. 3rd at daylight. It was a holiday for them, Emperor's birthday, I believe, and every junk, prow and sampan was bespangled with silk and banners. One can hire a jinrichisha for 20 cents a day and be drawn all over the city at a lively gait. After leaving Nagasaki we passed through the Inland Sea, stopping in Kobe all night. We were hove to eight hours in a 48 hour blow about 2000 miles out and had the after cabins smashed in by heavy seas which swept the decks and made lakes of water in your scribe's stateroom. Arrived all safe after a trip of two months and 10 days. I am going to Hong Kong next trip.

Yours as ever,

ANN ARKIST.

#### Local Union No. 6.

San Francisco, Cal., Dec. 1, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

It is with extreme pleasure that I again address you concerning the events that have occurred in No. 6 since I last contributed to your valuable columns. Thanksgiving eve brought about our fifth annual ball and it was a credit to the Brotherhood as well as the committee,

who spared no pains in making it one of the events of the season, and, notwithstanding the opposition entertainments of that evening, it was a grand success. It is needless for me to add that everybody went away thoroughly satisfied, mindful of the beautiful electrical and decorative aspect of the hall. It would be impossible for me to describe the beauty of the decorations, as no pen, other than that of a poet-laureate, could satisfy the cravings of our most sanguine expectations, as well as those of the most fastidious literatist; and all I could say is that the dancers and sight-seers, as they walked to and fro 'neath bowers of roses, ferns and hundreds of miniature lights, appeared like so many little fairies in fairyland, beyond even the imagination of a Rider Haggard or a Gulliver in his travels.

Bro. E. Indunmiller was with us fresh from Manila, and has a very poor opinion of that city, but Yokohama is a heaven to him. The trip has done him good, evidently, as he leaves us again very soon for Hong Kong. He sends regards to all the boys and reports Bro. Lampke taking things easy in Manila. Our local is in a prosperous condition and shows every indication of being one of the top locals for membership in the union. Bro. Gale, fresh from the convention, was received with more enthusiasm than one of the heroes from Manila. His election to the first vice-presidency is certainly a credit to that grand body; as an untiring worker, he has but few equals and I can say without the least hesitancy, that you will find him one of the coolest and most courageous of officers. Bro. Crepes is again with us and says that a year and a half's fighting in the Philippines has cured him of the foolish thought of adventure. There is but little to add in regard to electrical work, there being just about enough to keep the boys employed. So, in the absence of other news, it is with regret that I must conclude, with the compliments of our very fine weather.

I am, fraternally,

A. E. Y.,  
Press Sec.

#### Local Union No. 7.

Springfield, Mass., Dec. 7, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

We will soon usher in a new year, also a new press secretary, who, I trust, will be onto his job better than the present man who wields the pen. The pen is mightier than the sword, 'tis said, but I think some of us could handle the sword better. It is a case of the fellow who in writing to his girl said if I was there I could tell you more in five minutes than I could write in an hour. Well, old No. 7 is still alive, but not alive still, as we are doing business with a big B. Our contracts with the contractors are running along smoothly and we have no kick coming. But we have

coming kickers, for what is a local without a few good kickers, ones who cannot only kick over the traces but right over the dash-board.

Our present trouble seems to be that some of our members are guilty of being outside men. The same outside men whom I spoke so highly of in my last letter. Some of our new inside men have discovered that some of our members are outside men. The very same men who organized and maintained No. 7 until these inside men came in. The outside men did not deny the fact and a hot and heavy argument ensued. The temperature of the lodge room rose to about 212 degrees and then gradually cooled down and as the smoke of battle cleared away the hatchet was buried and quietness reigned. But the committee detailed to bury the hatchet did not do their work well. They left a small portion of the handle sticking above ground and at the next meeting night Dave Ahgreen saw the handle protruding and grasped it with both hands, swung it above his head and gave the inside men's war whoop. At the same instant Billie Pring beat a tattoo on his war drum and the battle was again on, but as before the tempest soon spent itself and as the storm clouds began to break and drift toward Court Square the sun shone forth and once more peace was with us and we appointed a committee to not only bury the hatchet but to also cremate the pesky thing, and now we get along as lovingly and harmonious as a Democratic caucus. If Dave or Billie want to talk to me about this letter they cannot do it at short range but over the telephone, as my doctor informs me that my nervous system could not stand any sudden shock, such as broken ribs or a fractured skull. He also advised me to practice running, as he informed me it would possibly be the means of prolonging my life.

Business is pretty brisk in our city. All the boys are working, and we have made arrangements with the painters' and decorators' union so that their business agent looks after our interests about the city. We also expect to give a smoker soon and, if any of our Pittsburgh brothers happen this way in time for it, I will see that they have a supply of stogies on hand for them. By the way, I wonder what became of those delegate pictures. Must be they are lost in the smoke or waiting for the sun to shine to develop them. I am in hopes of receiving mine before next convention. I will now lay aside my pen and take my pliers for the next term and make room for the new press secretary.

Yours fraternally,

"THE JUDGE."

#### Local Union No. 8.

Toledo, O., Nov. 9, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

As I have already missed one letter to

the Worker, and this is my first attempt toward the fulfillment of my duties as P. S., I hope everybody will be patient with me. I think the boys have already learned of their mistake, and will not make another at the next election of officers. News is not very plenty here at present, but I must say that all, or most of the boys, are working at present, and here's hoping there will be plenty of work for us all in the future.

No. 8 still has its fighting garb on and is bumping up against some snags along the way, but hope for things to loom up in our favor ere long. I think we scored a point in getting the work for the street fair held here this week. There has been one obstruction moved out of our way which has been looked for for some time, and we still look for more, only in a different way.

Labor Day passed off very nicely here, with a grand parade of both central bodies and all locals affiliated with them. No. 8 turned out in the B. T. C. division and celebrated at Presque Isle, where everybody had a good time except the writer and a few others who were not able to take part in the parade or celebration. The boys of No. 8 joined the parade in carriages, all except one, who was assistant marshal, I believe, and was supposed to mount a horse (so rumor has it) and remain so until the line of march was completed. But unfortunately for the rider, the horse took unto himself the privilege of disregarding the wishes and expectations of all parties concerned and compelled his graceful rider to dismount very suddenly. Injuries not serious.

I will close, hoping this little debut will save me a roasting.

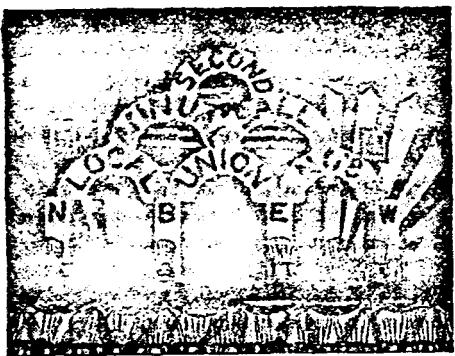
Yours truly,  
J. C. MOCK,  
Press Sec.

#### Local Union No. 8.

Toledo, O., Dec. 4, '99.

Editor Electrical Worker:

As the few standard members of Local No. 8 placed honors upon me, and forced me to bask in the rays of the Brotherhood as their scribe, I will grasp the quill from my neighbor's hencoop, unwillingly donated to me, and proceed to spoil paper. Since our delegate returned from opposite the West and brought back such good results wrapped up in his noble brain, Local No. 8 begins to believe that we will outlive a sick calf between now and the next generation. We now have a business agent in the field, so we will begin to clean house at once, with the aid of all our brothers who are in motion; of course we have some brothers who are in existence but not in motion. They are like a steam engine with the piston plugged up; they will not move. And if you put a fire under them and warm them up a little they pop off and —yes, they're off for four or five meetings.



Whether they skim the cream off the milky way or practice wireless telegraphy, that is a question. O, there are some of our junior members who can beat Nicola Tesla to the top shelf of any pantry in wireless telegraphy. I will tell you how they do it, but if you can do it or not I don't know. First you see a lady on one side of the street (of course there must be a woman in it or else it would not work); then appears a partial portion of No. 8 at a distance. First you notice a bow, then a nod—a tuti-tut, a tra la la, then a sound like a flash from a spark coil, and it's all off for some time. The next appearance they make they are either looking for a justice of the peace or some patent headache medicine. I know a good many things about it, but I certainly don't understand the code. Let all jokes aside and get married same as Bro. McGrath did. The best of wishes are extended to him and his better half; especially the scribe wishes you everything that's good, and that the McGrath generation be as numerous as the stars in heaven and the sand in the sea. Come and see us, Bro. Ed. Tell us any old thing. Your chair has got so cold that it shivers every meeting night.

Now, then, just to show you that we are making good use of that appropriation and the working of our business agent, all brothers are working of Local No. 8. We had some scabs pulled off certain jobs through our business agent, but sometimes it is difficult to fill their places because there are no members idle. If any members of the N. B. E. W. are strolling around, drop in Toledo with a good card. You will get work for a couple of weeks, more or less. We have few scabs left in Toledo that's got moss on their backs. Our agent is currying them down regular; they might begin to molt and get new feathers that might match our flock.

Now, then, I must tell you about our dance. Of course it was a winner. I tell you, these electric current jam mugs of Toledo never get lost, even when they do get mixed up with beets, turnips and downs, if you have room. I humbly beg you to put the likeness of this picture in your valuable paper. These are part of our decorations on the stage. O, I'll nev-

er forget that spot. While everybody was enjoying themselves—oh, them horrid musicians! There were the fiddlers torturing their fiddles, and the first bass rasping his, and the second bass blew in his horn so hard, trying to explode it, until his crop and chops swelled up so he looked like a bull-toad. O, I tell you it was a sight. No wonder everybody told us our ball was swell!

Now then; once more, brothers of No. 8, I call your attention. Come to meeting every Monday night. Don't go out Monday evening looking for Tuesday morning, or stay at home nursing your brother-in-law's sister's black cat. Yes, and cut out your Monday night sweetheart from your index; don't have seven girls; you might want to be representative some day, and if you practice Mormonism you will get the same dose as Roberts. So, come in and we will tell you the rest. Don't just be a member, but be an active member. I tell you, the proof of the pudding is in the eating of it; but when you use unbleached cranberries for sauce it begins to taste sour altogether. I hope to see you all present; then you can give that new scribe his calling down.

Being that I am sick, with that incurable financial consumption, I will quit and do better when I get better. Most of the P. S.'s generally have a switch to close up. I haven't got any, but I would like to pull somebody's leg for a five-spot or so.

#### FORMULA OF CONTENTS.

Quintessence of squat drops . . . . .	640
Loose thoughts . . . . .	210
Tincture of Webster's Unabridged . . . . .	143
Humor . . . . .	606
Common sense . . . . .	1001

THE SCRIBE,  
von Toledo, P. S.

#### Local Union No. 10.

Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 6, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

As the year is coming to a close I can not help thinking what a prosperous year it has been for No. 10, in fact for unionism in general in our city. No. 10 has grown from a poor little local hardly recognized by anyone to one of the best in the city, with a membership that will be in the hundreds before the year is out. Daddy Swift, our most worthy business agent, is the right man in the right place. He is keeping his eagle eye on all the naughty ones.

In regard to Bro. Malone, of No. 14, even if it was true that Supt. Crowley received 36 applications from Indiana, we did not know there was any trouble in Pittsburgh. Instead of giving Brother Hartung a shot he might have notified us in the legal way of trouble. Then all who are acquainted with Bro. Hartung know he is too loyal to run any of the good ones out.

Mrs. E. E. Bowman, wife of our deceased brother, has been offered \$500 from both the L. & P. Co. and the N. W. Tel. Co. She refused to settle and has employed attorneys to prosecute the case.

Bro. Geo. D. McLaughlin has gone to Arcada, Ind., to take charge of the city light and power plant. Bro. Tender has gone to Houston, Texas, where he can work this winter in his shirt sleeves, although he had a good warm overcoat when he left.

The Central Labor Union is giving musical entertainments every Sunday afternoon at Tomlinson hall, the proceeds to go to establishing a home for organized labor in this city.

Press Secretary.

#### Local Union No. 19.

Atchison, Kan., Dec. 27, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

Well here goes. This is my first attempt at an article for the Worker and as the brothers of No. 19 have honored me with all the books, seals and other apparatus pertaining to the P. S. and R. S. office, I feel that I am in duty bound to make a great effort. I intend to ask Pres. Roth to obtain an expressman's license for me so that I shall run no danger of getting pinched when I appear on the streets with all my apparatus and my swelled head.

By the way, we are going to give our first grand ball and electrical display and we are all assuring each other that it is going to be a grand success, and no wonder. Why, people have stopped different members on the street and asked when we were going to give our ball and all this before the order was given to print the tickets. If that don't speak a good crowd I don't know what will.

Labor Day we had a big blow out and picnic. It was the first time in the history of the town that Labor Day was celebrated. We jumped into this all alone without help from any other organization and we drew a swell crowd. We had all kinds of tub races and linemen's contests and games until further orders. Wound up the evening with a concert by a brass band and after that a dance. Everybody went home satisfied and of course are now expecting something great from our ball. Well, we're a pretty jolly lot of boys and all hang together. We have no ring within a ring business here. We are, for the size of our town, the strongest local in existence, as every old wire fixer and machine man in town carries a card. We have only one sorrow, Kansas is a dry state. That in itself is enough to scare away any wire fixer I ever hooked up with. We don't worry over this fact on our own account as much as we do for our visiting brothers. Every now and then a brother will drop in town and his due card show him to be all O. K. Now he may have been "hitting the

rattlers" and drop off here with a regulation "wire fixer's thirst." We appreciate his condition and of course have to know where to take him so he won't suffocate or rust his pipes. Consequently to keep posted on these things, we have to sample all the different beverages ourselves. But what surprised me when I came here was the fact that every member seems to have constituted himself a sampling committee. But for all that No. 19 is on the dead square and has no scabs in her district. Our meetings are all well attended and the only excuse for absence is work. President Roth would expect you down sick or dead and all the boys know it and consequently show up. Well I had better cut out now—if you never hear from me again you can rest assured that No. 19 is ashamed or else feels herself disgraced by her new P. S. and so has just put the hooks to him right.

HUGO WALTER,  
R. S. & P. S.

**Local Union No. 20.**

Greater New York, Dec. 3, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

Having promised our new P. S. to write to the Worker this month, I find I have a very hard job on hand, but will try and do the best I can. In reading my last month's letter in the Worker I noticed a mistake in the address of our hall; the correct number is 360 Fulton street, Brooklyn, instead of 320 Fulton street (traveling brothers please take notice). The hard-working brothers of our local are still keeping their good work up and bringing new members into our fold. We are initiating five and six new members every meeting night; that is not so bad for a new local, I am thinking, but some of our locals may think that is not a large number for a city the size of New York. Maybe not, but remember we have quite a bit of territory to cover and do not get acquainted with our brother linemen so quick as if we were in some smaller town. But keep your eye on Local No. 20; we will show you a good big local in the near future. I see some of our brothers came up to our last few meetings and had their working cards fixed; all I hope is that all brothers will keep their cards up to date. If they will do that our local will never get any smaller, but will continue to thrive, and in time of need we will all be able to show clear cards and have money in our treasury.

The weather man must have taken pity on the linemen around New York, for it is delightful weather for this time of year, but Bro. Kid Rivers must have got frightened, for I hear he has gone to the sunny South. Good luck to you, Kid, wherever you are.

As I am not in the best of health to-day, I will cut my letter short by hoping to be excused for doing same. So with greet-

ings to all other locals on behalf of Local No. 20, I am,

Yours truly,

WM. MCLAREN,  
P. S. pro tem.

**Local Union No. 21.**

Philadelphia, Pa., Nov. 12, '99.

Editor Electrical Worker:

Local Union No. 21, organized on Nov. 10, 1899, at Philadelphia, Pa., with thirty-one members of electrical and telephone linemen of this city, in Hancock Hall, 814 Girard avenue. Credit is due to Messrs. W. Godsall, D. Acott, A. B. DuBois, W. D. Henston and H. Weisner, who have been for many weeks endeavoring to accomplish this result. The first assemblage consisted of five, who held meetings in one of their homes once a week. Through the kindness of the Lotus Club they were given the privilege of holding meetings in their rooms on Thursday to gather in the linemen of the Quaker City. There have about seventy signed their names, and a small amount has been donated for expenses; there are thirty-one in the local now. We sincerely hope to see all linemen of this city in Local 21 before February. This city is in need of a union; the linemen have no say. The Bell Telephone Co. employs linemen for 25 cents an hour for nine hours per day, and stop work at three o'clock on Saturday. Now, they say the men are supposed to work ten hours a day, if they say so, and no overtime, or be laid off for three days. We hope to do away with this kind of working.

Mr. Wm. McFadden was elected President of Local 21; he is intelligent, and has been an active member. The following are our officers:

President—Wm. McFadden.  
Vice-President—D. Alcott.  
Rec. Sec.—A. B. DuBois.  
Fin. Sec.—Wm. Godsall.  
Treasurer—J. Rogers.  
Inspectors—J. Powick, J. Gimbel.  
Foreman—J. Flin.  
Trustees—W. D. Huston, H. Weisner,  
E. Cavenau.  
Press Sec.—C. Thompson.

Respectfully yours,

C. THOMPSON,  
Press Sec.

**Local Union No. 22.**

Omaha, Neb., Dec. 3, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

Since my last letter Local No. 22 has voted on amendments to constitution submitted by sixth B. C. N. B. E. W. of A. No. 22 held no meeting on 29th ult., as the greater part of the brothers were busy and a great many were compelled to work all day and night on both Wednesday and Thanksgiving, so you can readily see we had good cause for giving thanks. Fine Indian summer and lots of work, what a contrast to last year. The electrical busi-

ness looks very bright for a good winter's work, and I sincerely hope we will not be disappointed, as a great many of us still feel the effects of the horrible bilk we got at the hands of the Greater American Exposition Co. and I notice by the daily press the Exposition managers have declared themselves bankrupt. What do you think of that? I wonder where the money went. They now give us the cold laugh. While I write this and hear the cold wind whistling outside I wonder how many poor fellow workmen who were bilked by these anacondas have coal and food enough to properly protect their poor wives and families. Brothers, it is a disgrace.

I have had occasion to work with a great many brothers of late on general work and have met with a great many employers also and hear a great deal of complaint about union men from No. 22 doing the soldier act, that is, not giving good, honest work and hours for union pay. Now I know from personal observation they are justified in their complaint in many cases. Brothers, you know in this day of competition contractors must get good quick honest labor or lose on jobs. This will not do. Brothers, brace up. All the shops in Omaha are fair and the only way to keep the good work going is to give the employers honest hours and first-class work. My letter may strike some as personal; if the shoe fits, wear it. I write only the truth and if you follow my letters you will generally find them in the right.

Yours fraternally,

GEO. E. RUSSELL,  
Press Sec.

**Local Union No. 27.**

Baltimore, Dec. 10, '99.

Editor Electrical Worker:

At last the electrical workers in Baltimore have decided to make an example of employers who employ scab labor, and in following up the decision have declared Posner Bros. unfair. A resolution was adopted to the effect that no union man should work on the building being erected by Posner Bros. under the present contractor.

The Federation of Labor endorsed our resolution declaring them unfair, and ten thousand extra copies of the Labor Advocate were printed, giving a complete history of the case, of which the following is a summary:

When the new building of Posner Bros. was projected, Mr. Posner was waited upon by a committee several times, urging him to employ only union men upon the building. He directed his clerk to communicate with the architect and have the specifications include a provision that only members of organized labor should be employed. Posner claims that he could not get bids while that provision was included, and it was struck out. The contractors denied that such was the case.

A contract was drawn up agreeing that the men would not strike for higher wages during the construction of the building if the provision requiring union men was included in the specifications. Posner refused to sign it, but agreed to it verbally, saying, "It is useless to ask me to sign an agreement of any kind. I propose to employ none but union men throughout this building, and my word is as good as my bond."

As it turned out, scabs are doing the wiring in this building, and we have taken this way of showing Posner and prospective builders that the patronage of the thirty thousand organized workmen of this city, their families and sympathizers, is worth catering to. Thousands of dodgers have been printed and distributed, with many more to come.

Enclosed you will find a copy of the resolutions adopted in memory of Bro. Wm. E. Taylor, which the local desires published. Yours fraternally,

WM. A. YOUNG.

**Local Union No. 30.**

Cincinnati, O., Dec. 7, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

Absent members of Local No. 30, don't forget that we meet on the first and third Monday nights of each month, at No. 136 E. Court street. Your presence is wanted, for we have business, and lots of it, to attend to. Come boys, smoke up before the fire goes out entirely. The janitor has been instructed to get up more coal and to put up more hooks so you can hang your overcoat and hat up and stay awhile. Boys, now is the time to hit the iron; it is hot; come, take a smash at it, for there will be lots of room.

There will be election of officers, and a chance to give somebody a job as president, one of vice-president, etc. Come, brothers, and cast your votes for the best ones. There are four or five candidates who will try to ride our goat, so help the goat, poor fellow. The by-laws will be read for the last time at the next regular meeting. There might be something that you wanted changed or added to. Come up and make your wants known. Your presence will make it more interesting for the candidates. I know that you don't want them to think that we are forcing a gold brick or any green goods on them. No doubt some of the brothers are dissatisfied on account of not receiving their journal. If all brothers who do not receive the journal will leave their present address with the Financial Secretary they will get it.

Bro. Tripp, there might be several hundred men here, but not linemen, nor never will be. The companies don't believe in hiring journeymen linemen here, they believe in making them; so you can see what we have before us. When one has worked

the limit according to the Constitution, and has proven himself a lineman or wireman, then he may have his name put among the rest.

Work in and around Cincinnati is on the bum at present. As I am running short of news I will give my lamps a rest, hoping that my successor will be a good all-around scribe.

Members of Local No. 30 will be thankful for any information to brighten the prospects of the local.

Fraternally yours,

WM. P. WHEELER, P. S.

**Local Union No. 31.**

Duluth, Minn., Dec. 6, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

Another month has rolled around and the Press Secretary begins to realize that letters must be in by the 10th of the month and he will have to hustle to get his copy in time to see and let others see his local represented. This secretary now begins to understand why some of the locals do not have letters in the paper when they really have the news to make them up with. If they only could have some sort of an alarm clock to go off on the 4th or 5th of each month and yell out to them at the same time, "Write to the Union Paper!" they probably would wake up and write. But then perhaps some, or may be all, of us are the busy kind of boys and slightly forget our duty between the 1st and the 10th.

No. 31 is getting along all right at present and last meeting night added another 2000 C. P. arc to its circuit in the person of an eight-years experienced man who had not belonged to the Brotherhood before.

Business in Duluth is good and prospects good, but also enough men to handle all the work. The Independent Telephone are putting in a 1200 subscriber exchange in Duluth and a 600 board in Superior. Some of our brothers are with them and there are also a lot of fellows from outside here, for only about a month or so, that we cannot get into the local. The Independent Company are putting up first-class line work and underground work here and will use Stromberg-Carlson phones. There are a number of building jobs around town and one new isolated plant to go in soon, so we are none of us looking for work, but in this "neck of the woods" it gets slightly cold in the winter (down to 42 degrees below zero sometimes) and that, of course, stops nearly all outside work and building.

At our last meeting we got started on discussion of electric subjects, and if some brother had not had to go away to see his wife or his girl, we might have been discussing yet. Brother Hibbard is quite an artist with the chalk and when he "puts up" a diagram with his left hand it takes two good eyes and a level head to answer

the question he propounds about it. We talked Bell work, arc circuit and alternating work over till even the lights got scared because it got so hot in that room, and they asked the dynamo-tender to put them on a cooler circuit, which he did, in consequence of which we could hardly see for a minute. There's just one thing you can depend on, and that is that if the members will take the trouble to bring up these knotty problems of wire-work in the meetings, everyone will get some new ideas, and these very discussions will have a tendency to increase attendance and make better friends.

There are two former members of the 13th Vol. Signal Corps—Spanish War—in our local, and Bro. Marks and your humble servant would like to hear from some of the Press Secretaries if they have any members who were in the same company. There were boys from Kansas City and Columbus, Ohio, and other places with Bro. Marks, and I and we would like to hear whether they are members of the Brotherhood or not.

Yours fraternally,

CLIFFORD L. HIGGINS,  
Press Secy.

**Local Union No. 36.**

Sacramento, Cal., Dec. 4, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

As the brothers are anxious to have a few words from No. 36 and to see an article in the Worker, I will endeavor to write a few lines. No. 36 is coming to the front and the future looks bright; we have gained some good points of late, the boys are very enthusiastic and all the large buildings are to be wired by union labor. We have lived through the dark ages of Sacramento, and the electric lights gleam throughout the city; most every cottage is illuminated with incandescent lights. There is plenty of work and no union men are idle. The next move on the program is a city electrical inspector; several of the boys have an eye open for the position, but it is hard to determine who will be the choice of the boys. Sacramento has been a good electrical town and the future looks well in all branches of electrical work.

Yours truly,

JOHN L. BLACK,  
Press Secy.

**Local Union No. 37.**

Hartford, Dec. 9, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

I have been trying to wedge in most of my spare time the past month in the interests of the organization, by sending out communications to the different cities throughout New England, my desire being to have some enthusiasm worked up amongst the electrical workers in the several places in advance of the organizer. In consequence, my letter will be somewhat brief for Dec. Worthy Brother Wissinger

arrived here Thursday, 7th inst.; he reports doing some good work and succeeded with the assistance of F. J. McNulty, of Local 52, of Newark, in placing a charter at Jersey city with the outside linemen; he also reports being kindly assisted by other members of the Brotherhood in his efforts to organize in that locality. Friday, the 7th inst., he left here for Waterbury, Conn., and to night I will be there to assist him in instituting a local which he has in that time organized. We look for good results from the tour of Brother Wissinger throughout New England, and if anything like what we expect should materialize, the amount appropriated by the Convention was a wise move. We look for New Haven, Bridgeport, Holyoke, Pittsfield, and a general strengthening of the organization in Hartford and vicinity. If the success of Brother Wissinger in the two days he has been in the field here is any criterion, and in that time placed us on a footing in Waterbury, we will have to consider that we were slow in seeing the advisability of putting an organizer in the field before. As our Worthy President expressed in his initial letter to the Worker, "Let no man think his personality or particular locality entitles him to any more help or consideration than is justly due." I think that I explained myself as to this particular thing in a recent letter to the Executive Board. It is our most earnest desire that all sections be looked after for the interests of the Brotherhood, and if I can accomplish good results this way I am sure it is only a greater encouragement to other sections. I can assure you I am pleased with the outlook, and when our next, and first number of 1900 Worker is issued, I expect to see in the directory of locals a few more from Connecticut and Massachusetts. I voice the sentiments of our Grand President, "Let us all work together with the one object in view—the building and lifting up of the Brotherhood of man, never forgetting that it is the duty of every one to do all in his power to organize the electrical workers, thus placing us in the material, social and moral position that benefits our profession."

Local No. 7 has offered us their assistance, which we greatly appreciate. They also extend to us an invitation to be present at their meeting the 13th inst., after which a social hour will be spent. Safe to say Bro. Wissinger will see the opportunity, and be present. A number of Local 37 men will be in attendance, quite a number already signifying their intention of going.

Wishing all a merry Christmas, and a prosperous New Year, will say good bye. Business good here, all the boys busy.

Fraternally,

F. J. SHEEHAN.

#### Local Union No. 38.

Cleveland, O., Nov. 11, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

At the last meeting of Local 38 I was elected Press Secretary to succeed Uncle Tom Wheeler, resigned. Now, Mr. Editor, I don't know why Uncle Tom resigned, but, between you and I, I think that since he has been elected Grand President his hat does not fit him as good as it used to. You ought to see how high he carries his head and what an air of "authority" he assumes. But laying all jokes aside, we of 38 think we have the right man in the right place when we have Uncle Tom for Grand President, but, Mr. Editor, don't for a moment think that all members of 38 are like our Uncle Tom. Why, Mr. Editor, would you believe it, we have members in good standing, too, who have not seen the inside of our meeting hall for many moons, yet they expect everything to run just to their liking, and if it does not go their way they are the first to kick. Now don't you think it would be a good idea for them to come to meetings and help run things to suit themselves. Work is plenty here just now for good inside men with clean cards. Bro. Will Dixon is our business agent now, and he goes at it with an air that means business and is well liked by both contractors and Local 38.

Well, Mr. Editor, as this is my first offense, I will cut it short and try and do better in the future.

Yours truly,

PRESS SEC.

#### Local Union No. 38.

Cleveland, O., Dec., 8, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

This is to certify that Local 38 is still doing business, but not at the same old stand as we held our last meeting in the old hall last Wednesday eve., so take notice all ye floaters that are Cleveland bound, also brothers who have forgotten when and where we have met in the past, that hereafter we will meet in the Atwater Bldg. every Tuesday evening. We have also decided to hold a social in our new hall Dec. 10th. We invite all members of the brotherhood, their wives and sweethearts. We will assure you all a good time. Bro. Ed. Gilmore is down with blood poisoning caused by falling and hurting his leg, while working for the Cuyahoga Telephone Co. We all hope to see Bro. Gilmore with us again soon. There is not much news to write from 38 this time, everybody is working and the outlook is good for the winter. Did you see our Uncle Tom's mug in the Worker last month, ain't he a cunning looking old cuss, and you would think so if you ever bump up against him in a debate, and the best of it is he always stands for the right, hit or miss who it may. Ex. Bro. John Schmidt, who is now superintendent of the Cuya-

hoga Tel. Co. is down with quinsy and rheumatism. The boys all hope him a speedy recovery as he is one of the few men having a high position that knows how to treat the boys right. Every member of 38 has a good word for Jack, and if you ever come this way and strike him for a job, don't forget to stand in a position that he can see your button.

Oh ! yes, I almost forgot, I have a funny story to tell you about two scabs, one is an ex-member of 38, Steve Coyne by name, and the other hails from Buffalo, and disgraces the name of Phil Akers. These two beautiful running sores scabbed on the Big Consolidated during the strike, now their valuable services are no longer required by said company or any other company in this burg. This counterfeit Coyne got a job with the Cuyahoga Tel. Co. which lasted just one day. When he saw that he could not work in the town he had the unadulterated nerve to come and want to square himself with 38. Well I must cut it short for this time as I am running out of paper.

Yours fraternally,  
PRESS. SEC., LOCAL, 38.

#### Local Union No. 39.

Cleveland, Dec. 8, 1899.

Editor Electrical Workers:

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all the members of the Brotherhood is the greeting the writer sends to all. No doubt the event will be celebrated by all, but some will have better times than others. But every one will make the best of it, either by working (chasing all kinds of bother), or else smoking up a few lines, and having a quiet little talk with a few of (de gang), or with a few hot ones at regular intervals, telling how many miles they have strung up and how many arms they have tacked on, when they were in their prime, and when the old heads were in the business, when a lineman (a good fixer) could hop into any old town and also find the old heads and a job. But those days are fast fading away. The old fixers are pensioned off on some station on a pipe line or on some small light plants, telephone and telegraph jobs, and some of them even have gone back down on the farm to chase up the oxen and run threshing machines. "Whoa, Bill." And others have drifted away from their old circuit and taken up other trades to pass their declining years. But there is one thing that is seldom heard, that old man—so and so—who worked with the bunch when we strung two coppers over the Postal from Olean to Jamestown and then dropped down to Oil City on the Alleghany Valley Railroad with two No. 8 on the brackets, is dead—because that does not happen. The old-timer just passes away and then reappears as an army mule, or else you see him working on the railroad hauling a dumping cart on the grade. Now, brothers, there is a whole lot of sense

in these few remarks. How many of us can call the residence to memory of a lot of old pals that have worked side by side with us on different jobs? When we were hitting the road and stopping a few days on this job, and so on down the line, with no fixed place to stop at. All you know is that you worked with the push, and old what's his name, the fellow who had the humped back spur, from Binghamton, and Andy Cunningham and many others. Old Positive and Negative, Charlie Kirk, Alick McPherson (Buffalo Bill), Charlie Taylor, Dan. Duyer and the rest from the old Spencer House in Buffalo. Then your thoughts will wander in another way—"What's that, yes, yes I will take the same, make it small." Then you will want to know what has become of Frank Hurst, who was one of the leading stars at old Jake Usher's opera house in St. Louis. And Mike Leahy, Lloyd Barr (Fatty), O. M. Dean, Mattie Meadow and Old Bill Lantz, last heard of was stationed for the Postal at either Edwardsville or Litchfield, Ill. And Old Baldy Malmeinc, Bill Peerles (Baldy), and a whole push who stopped at the only home in St. Louis, I forget the landlady's surname, but the address was "Lizzie, 11th street and Pine, St. Louis." Well, old scouts, I would like to be around with the same old push in the old neighborhood again. Give my best to Fontana, Caffarati and Jim Cronin. Should this meet the eye of Kid Rivers, I wish him a Merry Christmas, and will take one for him at the "home;" this includes Brocky Brooks. Poor Brocky, he is so sick. My old side partner, Cyrus W. Gechter, has gone to Youngstown to do work in the wire-fixing trade, for the Independent Telephone Company. There are some more Cleveland boys down there, Bros. Hicks and Williamson, who came from Erie and registered at Cleveland, are working on some job.

Well, wonders will never quit. That tree trimmer from No. 56, Swantown, thinks that Brownie and him are the whole push, but they are not in the business in regards to frescoing trees when P. P. Hovis, Esq., is out with his scissors. Pete has a peculiar way of doing business, but he is original—it's his own patent. When he asks a poor lone widow to step out and look at the job, he says, "Now, lady, if you stand over here you cannot see how much we have cut off the tree, but if you stand over there you can see." And then Arctic Michell cut another limb off—Tableau—P. P. Hovis, Esq., running up the street. I am in the business myself, but I am not that bad. They claim that I have a stump machine, trimming the ones I can get close enough to. Say, Lou, give my regards to Pete Jacobs once more. You can remember me to Little Jim Hanlon of the strong-arm committee.

Would like to see a few of the fixers

from Erie down at our annual ball. We would give them a good time, and Pete Jacobs could drive "Old Rastus" once more. "Whoa, Rastus!"

Brother Louis Giebe, who got a bad shaking up some four weeks ago, is doing fine. The accident happened about the first of November. He was working on a pole on East Madison avenue transferring some old lines for the Bell Telephone Company, when the pole broke and let him down about thirty feet. He was shook up pretty bad, his back and hips were bruised. At present he is doing nicely. He is able to get out of bed, but it will be some time before he is able to work.

The present outlook for work is fair, although both telephone companies have a large force of men working, and from all indications things will hum along at a merry clip when the new company gives its subscribers service, which will be in the fore part of January, 1900. They intend to give them a Christmas present. Every traveler who has a good card in his possession when he arrives here is taken in and looked after, but those who are in the back row should give Cleveland a wide berth, as they are not wanted.

As this will be the concluding letter of my term of office, I must make a few remarks. The life of a Press Secretary is not a pleasant one. Some of the members will say, Why did you not write so and so, and this and that? Well, the only way for a Press Secretary to do is to think about all the same ideas these brothers do and then he would be a dandy. I hope the incoming Press Secretary will have some of those ideas and then he will be O. K. This editorial business is hard work.

I hope we will soon have the good news that the Brotherhood is International. The time has come, so let the good work go on.

Say, Sheehan, that marriageable question—Cy. and I had a few cold ones on the question. I think Cy. has a scheme in view about it.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to the President of the Conversation Club, Theodore Keyhole, of Powersville.

GEO. H. GLEASON,  
Press Sec.

#### Local Union No. 40.

St. Joseph, Mo., Dec. 8, 1890.

Editor Electrical Worker:

As our press secretary is busy writing his letter for the St. Joseph Union, our local paper, I will drop you a few lines to let you know how successfully our 3rd annual smoker was conducted. Everybody working at the trade about here received invitations, and most every union from New York to 'Frisco. Well, we had a crowd, a good time, and very little sleep that night. Bro. Lloyd, from Hutchinson was with us, and is a very good card player, as some of the boys can testify. Well, we started in with

cards and cigars, and when Bro. Imboden came he brought an old steamboat darky with a banjo and a violin. He was a whole band by himself. Besides, we had guitar and mandolin music; and when the city boys came they brought a barrel of beer, and we, just 40 of us, settled down to have a good time. All went well until about 9 o'clock, when we were all in the greatest uproar over a practical joke which two of our new members had sprung upon us, and we were horrified to see the hall and anteroom filled with women. Yes, wives and sweethearts, mostly wives; well every one had a basket and every basket was full. They did not wait to be invited in, but just made themselves at home. Some played cards, some danced, while some took charge of our old Uncle; and while he was not singing or playing they were feeding him turkey and cake and washing it down with lager. This is the second and last time No. 40 is going to be surprised on their smoker night. They did the same thing two years ago. Next time we will include the ladies in our invitation—they like smoke so well. It was just two o'clock when we left the house, and we took what was left to the city electric light plant and filled the boys up there. We have already received two applications from the effects of the smoker.

About a month ago I wrote to Cripple Creek Union about a fellow who dropped in here. He has a working card paid to June 1900, but nothing else. The card is made out to C. C. Davis, while the party goes by the name of Geo. Davis, and claims to be a charter member of No. 70. I would like very much to hear from No. 70 even at this late date.

The following is a clipping from the St. Joseph Union which will explain itself:

#### THE ELECTRICAL WORKERS.

Ordinarily an electrical worker pays little attention to a shock, but last evening was an exception, and local No. 40 met with one that required all their attention. A smoker had been arranged by the lodge and while everybody was imbibing enthusiasm from a newly modeled "mug," listening to catchy music and having a good time generally, there appeared at the door, all unannounced, a bevy of pretty women, laden with baskets, and possessed of a determination to see what sort of hosts the electrical workers are. It is needless to say there was a sudden lull in the entertainment, but after a few exclamations the boys regained their equilibrium and set about making it pleasant for their uninvited guests. Dancing and cards were the chief feature of the amusement, and this pastime was interrupted that justice might be done to the many good things brought to satisfy the inner man.

There were several guests from out of town. Among those present were: Jacob Schneider, Edward Schneider, W. H.

Tucker, W. E. Noonan, Chris Schultz, John Kill, Tim Howard, William Dorsel, Jeff Bartlett, J. D. Ross, R. Arnold, Frank Philo, George McDaniel, J. C. Ewinger, John Melvin, William Wise, W. D. Coffie, J. Lutzenberger, Alf Imboden, Fred Dunn, Jacob Cierdon, G. E. McCormac, Thomas Bastian, T. W. Lloyd, W. M. Runkle, Nelson Cain, L. H. Stuart, Ed. McCarthy, Frank Weidner, E. S. B. Hopkins, Charles Ellis, Shurman York, Mrs. W. T. Wise, Mrs. Edward Schneider, Mrs. John Melvin, Mrs. Edward McCarthy, Mrs. Fred Dunn, Mrs. Chris Schultz, Miss Moran, Mrs. Jeff Bartlett, Mrs. Jacob Cierdon, Miss Salisbury.

W. T. WISE,  
President.

#### Local Union No. 41.

Buffalo, N. Y., Dec. 8, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

As this will in all probability be my last letter to the Worker as press secretary, I will endeavor to keep up my record, finishing up my term with only one miss for a year. As this is the month for changing officers, I hope we may be able to select those who will keep things moving along smoothly during their term. I feel that I have had my share of office-holding, having been press secretary of Local 44 for a year or more and filled one unexpired term of president and two full terms. I have been press secretary of 41 for one term, also filling an unexpired term as president, and am just closing one full term as president. I hope the Brothers will have a little compassion on me this time and elect a president who will in all probability do better than I have done.

While Local 41 had no delegate at Pittsburgh, it feels that it still has a right to express its likes and dislikes. No doubt the money that was allowed by the convention was voted in good faith, but it does not seem as though it was necessary to give away some \$3500 for organizing, etc. In the past two years our national treasury was swelled from the small sum of \$512 to \$8,000 and over; we had no organizers on the road, and put out 38 new charters and only 5 surrendered. I venture to say we will not do any better, if as well, in the next two years. I think what was needed in the Brotherhood prior to 1898 was management; in 1898 we got it, and the reports of the G. S. and G. T. prove that the right men are at the head. Is there an electrical worker in the country who does not know of the N. B. E. W.? I don't think so; and those who want to join us can do so very easy.

Guess I better hang up and await the result of a few well meant and outspoken truths.

WM. A. BREESE,  
Press Sec.

#### Local Union No. 43.

Syracuse, N. Y., Dec. 8, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

I suppose that the members of the N. B. E. W. of A. think that the members of Local 43 of Syracuse have gone out of the business, but such is not the case.

At our last meeting I was ordered to write and extend a vote of thanks to Bro. H. W. Sherman, G. S., on the capable way he handled the office of G. S. and also send him congratulations on his reelection.

Well, we are still adding new lights to our local once in a while. We take them in just as soon as they arrive here. Work is rather dull here at present. Some of the Bros. have to sit around part of the time, so the Bros. who have a tendency to "float" want to shun us just at present if they are looking for work.

Well, as this is my maiden attempt to write for a paper I hope the brothers will not sit down on me too hard. I was out to see Bro. W. S. Hall, who is very sick, and he feels bad to think that more of the brothers do not go to see him. Come, brothers, brace up, you may be sick yourself some day and then the shoe will be on the other foot. Somebody just yelled "ring off," so I will have to quit.

G. A. DAVENPORT,  
Fin. Sec'y.

#### Local Union No. 44.

Rochester, N. Y., Dec. 6, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

As it is several months since you received a letter from Local 44, we cannot let this month pass without writing just a few lines. The great social event of the season has passed and gone. I refer to the seventh annual ball of Local 44, held at Fitzhugh hall, Thanksgiving eve. To say it was a success would be putting it mildly. It seems as though the people wait for our dances. The hall was overcrowded. There was between 400 and 500 couples on the floor. I will not go into details, but will leave that to outsiders. This is what the Morning Herald had to say of it:

BLAZE OF LIGHT.

#### BRILLIANT DISPLAY OF THE ELECTRICAL WORKERS' UNION.

##### ITS SEVENTH ANNUAL BALL.

Fitzhugh Hall Crowded Until Long After Midnight by the Dancers—Many Fair Women Under Hundreds of Red, White and Blue Incandescent Lights—The Committees.

Fitzhugh Hall never looked more attractive than it did last night with its profuse decorations and its hundreds of fair women in the blaze of light afforded by the brilliant electrical display of the National Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. The occasion was the seventh annual ball of the local branch of that organization.

Every inch of space in the hall was utilized by the dancers, there being between four and five hundred couples on the floor during the evening. There were 26 numbers on the programme, and it was long after midnight before the strains of the last waltz, "My Old New Hampshire Home," were played out.

In white light over the main entrance to the hall were the letters, "N. B. E. W.," the initial letters of the organization. One of the handsomest pieces in the electrical display in the interior of the hall represented the emblem of the order. Within a large circle of red, white and blue lights were two American flags, in incandescent lights, and underneath, the letter and figures, "L. U. 44, N. B. E. W." On either side of this design were two electrical stars. From the aperture over the center of the hall festoons of red, white and blue lights were hung. The electrical display was backed by profuse drapings of the American colors, making all together a very pretty effect.

The platform in front of the hall was set with palms. On one side of this a police patrol box was set up, and on either end a telephone. One of these represented the Home Telephone Company and the other the Bell Telephone Company. The center of the platform was occupied by a large fire alarm bell which kept up a steady clang during the whole evening.

The music was furnished by Malone's orchestra, which occupied a position in the north gallery. The rest of the space in the galleries was taken by spectators. Following are the committees which had charge of the ball:

Arrangement—D. Willis, F. M. Kehoe, H. W. Sherman, F. A. Martin, John Cox, H. N. Smith, Frank Graham, J. D. McGuire, J. W. Martin, James Toolin, Joseph Devine, John Haley, Thomas Lewless, James Malay, W. McArdle.

Reception—H. W. Sherman, James Malay, P. W. Martin, J. D. McGuire, A. L. Denniston, C. G. Vickery, W. R. Cook, Ed. Masten, M. Sweeney, A. Murdock.

Floor—J. B. Thistle, W. Reichenberger, H. N. Smith, Thos. Kewin, L. Kelly, G. Hellig, John Cox, Joseph Devine, C. C. Deffner, W. McArdle, S. Campbell, Charles Riley, James Toolin, John Bircree, J. L. Guerinot.

Electrical—H. N. Smith, Harry Pearce, A. L. Denniston, R. P. Witherell, H. Wishart, Charles Granning, L. Ferner, W. Z. Dalgerty, J. B. Thistle, Frank Graham.

Order—James Riley, John Ryan, A. Cunningham, Thomas Rice, Frank Hayes.

The local extends thanks to the electrical contractors and companies for their generous help to make our dance a success.

Local 44 has been a mixed local since it was organized in 1892, always priding ourselves that we would always stay as we

were, but time in its onward flight brings many changes. The inside men of our local, after due deliberation, decided to go it alone. They applied for a charter and are now Local 86. Here is wishing them every success. We know the same good feeling will exist now as heretofore. Our fights will be their fights, our victories their victories, our defeats their defeats. I am glad to see the Brotherhood is doing well and hope the next two years will bring us many new members. Work is very good in this city, all the boys at work and a floater with a paid up card can get a job. Wishing all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, I am,

Fraternally,  
AMPERE.

#### Local Union No. 45.

Editor Electrical Worker:

Dear sir, I again wish to forward a few remarks to the journal, probably for the last time, for ere this appears in the columns of the Worker our semi-annual elections will have taken place, and in all probability the signature of my successor will be attached to the next letter appearing in your paper. Now, as it is my last opportunity, I bethought me I could not devote it any better than by saying a few words upon organized labor. I fully understand that it is rather a profound question for a writer of my type to handle, but I shall not attempt to discuss the difficulties it meets in the halls of legislation, or at the hands of emperors or kings, but only the minor troubles it meets among the workingmen. The correspondent of our sister local, No. 41, aptly remarked some time ago, that a man who did not affiliate with his craftsmen, as a rule there was generally something wrong with his brain. Now, as a rule, that does hold good; but you know there are exceptions to all rules. In my own experience I have occasionally met very intelligent and brilliant-minded men who hold aloof from us for reasons best known to themselves. There are others who will offer a thousand and one excuses why they fail to associate with us. But when you consider the disingenuous pleas of those men you find them invariably destitute of all those human sympathies which bind men to men, and their selfish propensities predominate to such an extent that they desire to live within the narrow circle of their own lives, and they flatter themselves with the idea that when they pass from this earthly sphere the great train of progress will apply the break and remain perfectly motionless for the remainder of time. Now, we all know that this is an erroneous idea, as many a great man has passed from his earthly career and the world has succeeded in getting along without him. And then, now and again we will meet with one who will tell

you plainly he don't intend to join those cranks and anarchists, and I happened to meet one of them the other day. Well, at first I really did not know what he meant by cranks and anarchism, so I took the pains to look it up in my new Hunter & Morris Dictionary, and I discovered they gave the definition of a crank as an arm at right angle to an axis, by which motion is imparted thereto or received therefrom. But I also found that those gentlemen, in their copious researches of the English language, discovered another kind of a crank, which they define as a person whose mental faculties have been wrongly twisted or bent in one particular respect, which in all probability is the one to which our opponents allude. Now I looked up the word anarchist, and found the meaning of it to be one who plots or effects the overthrow of legitimate government. Well, I really felt sorry for a man whose mind was so benighted as to imagine that a trades-unionist was a person who lay upon a sleepless bed at night with two or three dynamite bombs under his pillow ready to cast them at the first capitalist he saw. So I thought I would look up a little quotation or something and try to prove to him that such was not the case, and instead of referring to Macaulay or Bancroft, or some other great historian, I decided to take another quotation from Hunter & Morris, and I looked up the meaning of trade-union and found they defined it in the following manner: "Trade Union—An organized body of workingmen in any trade, manufacture or industrial occupation, associated for the promotion of their common interest." Specific aims may vary in different unions, but the following extract from the rules of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers, one of the most powerful trade unions in England, will give a fair idea of their general objects: "The society shall be a trade society, and the objects for which it is established are: By the provision and distribution of funds, and by other means hereafter mentioned, on the conditions set forth in these rules, to regulate the conditions of labor in the trade included in the society, and the relations of its members with them; to promote the general and material welfare of its members; to assist them when out of work and in distressed circumstances; to support them in case of sickness, accident, superannuation, and loss of tools by fire; to provide for their burial and the burial of their wives, and to aid other trade societies having for their objects, or one of them, the promotion of the interest of workmen."

Now, it needs no extensive or exhaustive argument to prove that those men have labored with all their learning to give a plain and simple explanation of the word, and it is easily seen by the thinking mind that the imagination of those men who condemn us as cranks and anarchists are

but idle dreams; for, far be it from our intention to pull down and destroy the governments which men have labored to build up from the beginning of time, and to substitute in their stead some frail form conceived in the moment of excitement, and which would be easily wrecked upon the unstable sea of human opinion. But our ambition is to add another gem to the diadem which encircles the head of the fair Goddess of Liberty; to elevate the workingman above the level of the slave, and to help smooth the pathway of the next generation and of the people yet unborn.

So, therefore, let us continue on with our good work; let our deeds shine with diamond brilliancy when contrasted with those of our opponents, for they remind me very forcibly of a fable I once read when a boy, from that old book of Aesop's Fables, and if my memory serves me well I will try to relate it. It stated that once upon a time the owls, bats and other nocturnal animals of the forest decided to hold a grand convention for the purpose of dispersing the sun, and they succeeded in collecting such a vast audience that they felt sure their efforts would be crowned with success, so they began to abuse and upbraid his majesty, the sun, in a very sarcastic manner. But as the morning approached and that great planet began to reflect its rays into the eastern heavens, they became alarmed and fled away in terror to their dark catacombs, lest it should concentrate its rays upon them and deprive them altogether of their already imperfect vision. But to their surprise and astonishment they found that his majesty arose and continued along his well-beaten pathway as usual, without paying the least attention to them. So also let us cast our rays of brilliancy into the dawn of the twentieth century and disperse those birds of ill omen. And as our Brotherhood now knows no geographical bounds, but encircles the earth, let us all descend to put on the armor of justice and the helmet of brotherly love, and protected by the shield of experience, go forth and spread the mission of our Brotherhood from zone to zone, from pole to pole, denying to no man those privileges we now enjoy, or those we seek to obtain. Wishing you all the compliments of the season, I remain,

Yours fraternally,  
J. J. CASEY,  
Press Sec.

#### Local Union No. 49.

Chicago, Dec. 10, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

To be compelled to work 365 days in the year without any rest is a hard task for a laborer. The trimmers of the city of Chicago have no rest. They work on Sundays and holidays alike, and receive no more pay for work done on Sunday than for

work done on any other day. Whenever we get a vacation we must pay for it. If we take two weeks vacation we are docked for two weeks when we receive our pay check. A movement should be made to induce the mayor and city council to allow us full time when we are given a vacation, just as other employees of Cook county are allowed full time when they take their vacations. It is unfair to have men toiling as we have to toil, and endure what we have to endure, and then be so unkindly treated by our city. Perhaps it is because the city revenues are low and there is a great necessity for economy; but let us see what constant work of every day in the year means to a trimmer. We have poles to climb every time we adjust a carbon. In climbing these poles great strength is required. The constant climbing of ladder and steps has a great effect upon the muscles of the body, and the best physicians tells us that weak heart action is one of the serious results of such severe strain. Rheumatism is common among us because of being constantly exposed to the weather. Bronchial troubles and asthmatic conditions are results of colds we are constantly contracting. It is necessary for us to purchase more shoes and rubbers than other city employees. This item of expense alone is very high during the year. Whenever we lose a day by sickness, we are not paid for that day's work. Considering these facts, is it not the duty of the city to give us more pay for our work, or give us extra pay for work on Sunday, and give us a vacation each year, so that rest may not be a stranger to us? We are (I was about to say) the most serviceable of all city employees. Our department of electricity is the most important department of the municipality. We make it possible to detect and run down burglars. We make it possible for citizens to see the large holes in our dilapidated and rotten sidewalks, and thereby prevent accidents to limb and body. This saves the city thousands of dollars in accident cases. It is not necessary to name more valuable uses of arc lamps, but it is sad to think that with all this, should one of us get hurt or be taken with a severe illness, we would not be able to pay for medical care for more than a few weeks before we would become wards of hospitals or objects of charity. We cannot get insured and properly prepared for the future at so little salary. We ought to have our salaries increased, that we may live with some hope beyond. We should again petition the council and the mayor; we should again plead with our superintendent; we should again rally our union and never cease our endeavors or relax our efforts until our salaries are increased. Public opinion is with us. No citizen and no taxpayer who ever saw a trimmer freeze to the iron lamp-post when it is 20 below zero, or carried to the hospital when laid

low by a shock, or trudging through the rain like a drowned rat, or swept from his feet by a blinding, cutting snow storm, or racking with pains of rheumatism contracted on duty, would ever object to the arc-light trimmers getting a raise in salary.

HENRY H. MARTIN,  
Press Sec.

#### Local Union No. 51.

Pittsburgh, Pa., Dec. 8, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

I have my head so full of Christmas gifts and love letters I really do not know what to talk about. I have just returned from a German ball and, talk about a circus, while the grand march was going on, the line was short-circuited somewhere in the building and of course the fuse blew. The would-be German electrician could not find the fuse block, then a Miss of about 18 volunteered to climb up the ladder and some brave hero suggested they hold her up, to which she readily consented. Well, you ought to see the crowd of boys scramble to see who should hold her up. It looked like a game of Rugby. She was finally carried over the goal, when the Electrician struck a match and in a few minutes the lights were all aglow again. I lost a hat that looked like about four dollars, and I have come to the conclusion I will not attend any more German balls. If it was an Irish ball they would not have lost any time to light up, and possibly my friend and I would be there yet. Well, we are six members better off since I wrote last and the prospects of more, and brothers wishing to correspond with electrical locals of Pittsburg in 1900 will address to Electrical Building. I believe that is what Local No. 5 will christen it. You know Big Local 5 chartered a building down on 4th avenue and is going to rent out to Locals 14 and 51, so if there are any lights which go out, lines drop, or pocket books to be lifted, Locals 5, 14 and 51 will be there on time; in fact, I think we will raise Cain once in a while, for the building will be thrown open at any time for its members. We will all hold a standing invitation. Any visiting members are welcome as well as we are, so if any brothers come to Pittsburgh in the near future don't forget to call around.

Well, D. H., did you forget, or was I late? "You are late," was his reply. This is part of the conversation which was carried on in the dynamo room the other day when I came in and saw an empty cigar box lying on the floor. But, Bro. Simms, accept strongest congratulations of Local 51. May he grow up to be a craneman and a member of Local 51. Brothers, it was a nine pound boy presented to the Simms homestead one day this week. Mother and child doing finely. I suppose Bro. Simms will have a soap box with three levers on stuck in the stocking of little D. H., Jr., on

Christmas morning. Wishing him good health, and one and all a merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, I remain,

Fraternally,  
P. F. CORCORAN,  
Press Sec.

#### Local Union No. 52.

Newark, N. J., Dec. 6, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

I hope that all members of all locals within the realm of labor unionism have returned to their usual avocations, after having partaken of a bountiful supply of our national menu, I mean by that that good old bird, the turkey, with cranberry sauce and the never to be forgotten pumpkin pie, washed down by some good old Jersey applejack, or what is just as good American cider.

I am very glad to say to the Worker that our local is rapidly gaining in numbers, propositions pouring in each meeting night accompanied by the necessary amount of money, and the amount of business has so increased that the officers have found it expedient to hold our meetings every week until the first of the year.

I think our local should consider itself very fortunate for the able manner in which our representatives conducted its business at the National Convention. I rather think that it must have furnished food for reflection on the part of some of the old staggers. With such men to represent us, success is assured every time, and I am sure that each member joins me in thanking them, through the columns of the Worker, for their indefatigable attention to their duty.

Local 52 has decided to notify every contractor in Greater New York to the effect that it will, as far as it lays in its power, not permit any one who is not a member in good standing belonging to Local No. 52 or some other local of the National Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, to do any work in Essex County, N. J.

Our worthy president made an earnest and touching appeal to all members present at our last meeting, requesting each one to put his shoulder to the wheel and help things along, and not leave all the work to be done by a few; he also alluded to the absentees, finding fault (not in meeting) for doing this and not doing that, etc., instead of coming to meeting and saying what they want there and then. It is to be hoped that this appeal will have a salutary effect.

Our old and trustworthy brother, Oscar Schimper, is back to his lathe again in Crocker-Wheeler's shop, after an absence of 16 weeks, during which time he thought he would lose his eyesight. He is a true blue union man, which is a great deal more than can be said of some of his co-workers, supposed to be union men too, oh how soon they forget their obligation. I would say to the employers of such men to keep a

good look out for them, if they break faith with one party they will with the other too.

If any brother of the N. B. E. W. shall have been in this vicinity on Friday evening Dec. 8th, and misses our smoker, well they will have missed the half of their life, that's sure. I'll tell you all about it in my next, if God is willing.

Local 52 wishes every other local in existence and those that are to exist a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Yours fraternally,

PRYCE BAMPFORD,  
Press Secretary.

P. S.—A number of our linemen employed by the various telegraph, telephone, and other electrical companies in the city met Dec. 2d, at 58 William st. and formed a branch of the N. B. E. W. to be known as Local 87. The branch was organized by P. H. Wissinger, assisted by F. J. McNulty of this city and President of Local 52. The new union has 72 charter members and will hold their meetings at 168 Mulberry st.

#### Local Union No. 56.

North Springfield, Pa., Dec. 8, '99.  
Editor Electrical Worker:

Hoping to get this letter of careful composing to you by wireless telegraph (as there is no other way to send it from here), I take pleasure in explaining to the people in civilized places where the Worker may be read, that there are a few wire-fixers snowed in on the banks of Lake Erie, but as Joshaway Hammerstone (our landlord) has just butchered three hogs and one pig, we are feeding quite well on spareribs, pig's liver and some good headcheese. Mother Hammerstone has also got some very fine sour kraut and pickled water-melon rinds, and last night one of those large brown Leghorn hens froze her feet so we had chicken for dinner to-day; for breakfast we have buckwheat cakes, molasses, and pig, geese, coffee and dough-nuts. The beds are all right, too. They are built of 4x4 scantling, about 150 feet of good half-inch hand line, about 3½ bales of oat straw, 49 11-16 pounds of turkey feathers, four woolen blankets and a buffalo robe. It is hard to leave these beds and go out into the snow to work. The snow is 1 foot 13½ inches deep now and it is snowing at the rate of 1-64 inch per minute.

I don't mind the snow, but I would like to be in Erie, as I was reading in an Erie paper that the councilmen are going to have all the wires put under ground there again. This will be the 13th time, and I would like to be there to know where they put my wires. I have one wire that my friend G. would not like to part with. It is not a very large wire, nor a very long wire, but it is almost impossible to find it now; and if they make any changes I am sure I never could find it, and if it should get broke it would throw all of those mes-

senger boys out of a job. But if this snow storm increases I will never want any kind of wires.

I cannot say just how matters are in Erie, as I am as ignorant about that as I am with this pen.

I wish everybody a Merry Christmas that wants one. J. E. C., P. S.

#### Local Union No. 58.

Niagara Falls, Dec. 6, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

At this writing I can state that No. 58 is still improving and getting along in fine shape. Work around Niagara Falls is still improving. The Niagara Falls Power Co. is now building a new transmission line from Niagara Falls to Tonawanda for power to that city. The work is under the direction of Bro. Peter Notley. It is also building a new conduit from the power house over to Canada for transmitting power there.

Bro. Forbes, with some other men who came to Niagara Falls from the West to work for the "Home Telephone Co." would not go to work until a scab was discharged who came here to work on the same job. The name of the said scab is unknown to the writer.

Bro. George Harrington is taking a week's vacation in New York, Baltimore and Washington. Bro. Wickwire finds it very cold taking care of open circuits. The new wheel pit for the Niagara Falls Power Co. is progressing rapidly. Several teams have been working for two weeks and the recent snow storm does not seem to affect the work. This pit will be built for eleven Westinghouse dynamos, 5000 H. P. each; it is estimated as being a three years' job.

Bro. Chas. Gent is now employed at the Niagara Falls Power house.

Our meetings have not been attended largely of late, but we hope that by the beginning of the new year the brothers will take more of an active part in the meetings.

Local 58 received a letter from one of our city jewelers, asking us to patronize him by buying electrical buttons there. The jeweler himself does not believe in organized labor, therefore Local 58 will not patronize him.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, I am,

Fraternally yours,  
C. W. ASHBAUGH,  
Press Sec.

#### Local Union No. 59.

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 9, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

Realizing the mutual benefit to be derived as well as the assistance given to those already organized it occurred to a number of electrical workers that "In union there is strength" to such a degree that a decision was made to attempt to organize a local union of inside electrical

workers. Therefore a number of private meetings were held in order to concentrate ideas and form some opinion of the best course to pursue in bringing all in touch with each other and attain the best result. The result of this procedure was successful to such an extent that a charter was applied for and which was procured without any difficulty, and on September 9th, 1899, with the assistance of Ex-Grand President J. H. Maloney, Local Union No. 59, of Chicago, was established. We cannot thank the brothers of Local Union No. 29 too much for the courtesy shown us by them, and we have depended mainly on their support, considering all this, and the presence of thirty-four of our members at our last meeting undoubtedly decides the future of Local No. 59. Work seems to be going along nicely in Chicago and all the brothers are "making hay while the sun shines." As it is getting daylight "a. m." I will ring off and give some more worthy Press Secretary a "chance to make a test."

Fraternally yours,  
THOS. T. CUMMINGS,  
Press Sec. L. U. No. 59.

#### Local Union No. 60.

San Antonio, Tex., Dec. 3, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

As this will probably be my last letter to the worker I will endeavor to do my best. First, I wish to call the attention of the brothers to a couple of typographical errors in my last letter, first in speaking of the courtesies extended by Mr. Leroy Price to our delegate, Bro. McElroy, it should read from San Antonio instead of from San Francisco, but I suppose that most of the readers will understand it. Three weeks ago No. 60 decided to elect a business agent for one month as an experiment and in the meantime endeavor to induce the B. T. A. to take the matter up and carry it on. Your humble servant was the victim and for the last three weeks his life has been one continued round of pleasure (nit). He is very happy in the knowledge that he is graciously allowed to rake the chestnuts out of the fire for others to eat, and he does not mind the blisters that necessarily follow the operation. Ye gods, what more could mortal man desire than to thus be allowed to place himself upon the sacrificial altar of Brotherly love of the nineteenth century?

Brothers, if you are looking for a job you had better stay away from San Antonio, for things are moving pretty slowly. Until the present time we have been doing splendidly, there was plenty of work for all our members and nearly always a few days to help a weary floater on his way, but things have changed in the last few weeks and quite a number of our brothers are on the extra list with not much in sight.

I forgot to mention our hospital list in my last letter, but better late than never.

Bro. J. C. Talcott had his thumb copper-poisoned about the 15th of September and has been laid up until the present time, but thanks to a good doctor, good treatment and a very fine saw, he is able to be with us again, minus the largest portion of his right thumb—that was where the saw came in. Bro. W. P. Anderson was working on some chandeliers in a residence about six weeks ago and somehow got caught while on top of a ten-foot ladder. He was unable to break loose and his helper, seeing his condition, pulled the ladder from under him, whereupon he dropped to the floor, striking upon his heel, but I am glad to say that he is able to be out on crutches now and we hope to see him at work before long. Bro. Alfred Lamm and Bro. Lovejoy are also on the sick list. Bro. Hendricks, who is repairing on the S. P. is also just up from a short spell of sickness.

Several of No. 60's members, your humble servant among them, took in the bull fight at C. P. Diay, Mex., last Sunday, and to say that we had a delightful time is putting it very mildly. We met Brothers Jameson and Wallace, both of No. 60, who have cast their lot in Mexico. They immediately took charge of us, saved our pocket books, filled our pockets with cigars and proceeded to show us everything that was to be seen in C. P. Diay. Bro. Jameson has charge of the electric plant of the I. M. R. R. Co. and a model of perfection and neatness it is. Bro. Wallace, until the present time, has been line repairer for the same road, but it is hard to keep a good man down and brother Wallace has been promoted to battery man for the entire road.

We hope soon to be given an opportunity of entertaining them in the Alamo city. Brothers, at the next meeting we will elect officers for the ensuing term. This is something that should be given a good deal of thought, for we must have the men that are best fitted to serve in the different offices. With best wishes for the brotherhood.

W. M. GRAHAM,  
Press Sec.

#### Local Union No. 62.

Youngstown, O., Dec. 4, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

As we failed to report for the month of November, I will endeavor to see that the boys will hear from 62 for this month, but you cannot expect much, as nothing startling has happened in the last few months. We have had some sickness—the O'Brien Bros. were both down with typhoid fever. Jack is working again and Jim will be able to go to work in a few days. Bro. Crawford was in a few days with a sore throat but is able to be out again. Our last meeting was a very thin one; it was on thanksgiving night, but those poor meetings make money for the treasury. We fine every one ten cents for not attending. Of course

some will have what they think a good excuse, but we know better. Bros. King and Wiseman for instance, and Bro. Wiseman being an officer, will just take 50c. out of his purse. I think this thing of imposing fines is not just the proper caper; the brothers come once in a while and pay up or give some real tame excuse, "Had to go over and pack goods," or "go over to Bro. So and So, some one of the family was sick," and when you find out the truth of the matter they were playing pedro, and these flimsy excuses are accepted. Will some Bro. kindly tell us through the Worker how to get the Brothers out to our meetings? Of course on the nights we have work we have a good turn out.

Talk about your work for wire fixers, there is all kinds of it here. The C. U. Tel. Co. have a large force of men here and will rebuild the whole plant, will string thousands of feet of cable and lots of all copper wire. The C. U. is putting in higher poles all over the city. The U. S. Tel. Co. has a gang of 86 men here doing inside wiring, putting arms on their old poles, setting new poles, doing underground work, switch board, etc.

Oh yes, we must not forget the marriage of Bro. Bert Beaver. Bert went and did it, went to Defiance and found a lady who was willing to have her name changed and make Youngstown her home and they are getting along finely.

No. 62 is thinking of giving a smoker in the near future. We hope to have a good attendance next meeting night to complete arrangements for same.

Our union has a chance to grow just now, with all the nonunion men in town and no excuse at all for not coming in the union. Come in boys out of the cold.

W. H. BUZARD,  
Press Sec.

P. S.—Something startling happened Dec. 6th. Bro. Fred Lewis, working for the You. Elec. Light Co., was doing some work for that Co. at the You. Steel Co.'s plant, stringing wire from the top of one of the large cranes. The crane, from some cause or another, was started, and Fred was not on his guard, lost his balance and fell a distance of perhaps 25 feet, striking a trestle with his breast and when he was picked up it was found that life was extinct. Bro. Lewis was a single man and leaves a mother and sister to mourn his loss. Brother Lewis will be sadly missed by our union; he was our first inspector and was a man whom to know was to like. There has been no arrangement made for the funeral, but local 62 will no doubt have charge of it and turn out in a body.

W. H. B., P. S.

#### Local Union No. 65.

Butte, Mont., Dec. 5, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

letter did not reach you in time to publish, but as it was my second letter, I had no idea what date the Worker was published.

Well, the mountains are covered with snow, and the turkeys have taken their last glimpse of them. The gainers are now busy making changes around town. The Butte General Electric Light Co. is just about to send funds over there "Big Hole Transmission," and then there will be a "Hot time in the old town that night." Some of the gainers warmed up one or two of the ground hogs the other day and one of the victims said he was going to start an electric light plant with the surplus left in his body. All the same storage batteries.

The Bell Telephone Co. is making quite a lot of changes around town and connecting other smaller places with Butte. Hello! isn't that right? Well, I think there has been more work this year in the electrical line than in any two years previous. Probably it is because we have the largest line-men that have ever been in Butte. The Montana Supply House cannot get men enough, so we had to work night and day. Time and a half is good for us.

Wishing all brothers a Happy Christmas and a Merry New Year, I remain,

Yours truly,  
M. M. GRAHAM,  
Press Secretary.

#### Local Union No. 65.

Butte, Montana, Nov. 12, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

You have probably heard by this time that the people of Butte have a run for their money to keep away from the small pox. Brothers, you will not need 1000 volts if you get the small pox, for it will shock you just as bad as 1000 volts ever could.

We have had quite a large attendance at our meetings lately. I guess they are all afraid of the small pox, or else their girls have gone back on them.

We expect quite a large number of the brothers at our next meeting in our new hall, on the fifth floor of the Omsley Block, cor. Main and Park sts. We have an elevator to convey us from the ground floor to our new abode. The last two months we have increased our membership about seven. That is doing very well for the "smoke-eaters," isn't it? I guess that is poor.

In my last letter I spoke of Brother Davidson representing Local No. 65 at the National Convention, and he brought good news back with him. He proved to Local No. 65 that the unions were prospering all over the U. S. A., and that their chances are better than ever before. We were all glad to hear this, and only hope it will keep up. Bro. Davidson told us of meeting a learned lot of men, representing the different locals, and seemed to be well pleased and entertained while in their presence. He was just the brother, and we knew he would satisfy all.

I am very sorry that my last month's

The Butte General Electric Light Co. has been taking on men for the last three weeks. Some of them are as large men as can be found anywhere. The Bell Telephone Co. has been following suit. The Montana Electric Co., the supply house where I am working, cannot get men enough just now to keep up with the times. We hope this will always be the case. We are having about the same trouble with the Silver Bow Plumbing and Elect. Co. as we had before, but with a brighter prospect of their doing the right thing in the future. It is impossible, in my estimation, for a company of any kind to last long in Butte if they get mixed up in union troubles. They can lead the horse to water, but they cannot make him drink, and the comparison will prove true in the future, I am sure.

The brothers of Local No. 65 would like to express their feelings to the brothers, of the would-be union man by the name of Watkins from Local No. 38; Cleveland, O. He had the signs and dues card and when it came time for him to come into Local No. 65 he showed the white feather by skipping out. If he is a union man he will have to show us. We are from Missouri. He also borrowed money from different brothers and, being good-hearted boys, they cheerfully responded, "but he never came up." He treated board and room bills just the same. Brothers, a man like this should be crushed to earth and kept there. He is not a man of principle or he would not have treated the brothers and others this way.

Fraternally yours,  
M. M. GRAHAM,  
Press Sec.

#### Local Union No. 66.

Houston, Dec. 1, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

Well, brothers, I will try and give you a few notes from No. 66. Our steady gain in membership is very encouraging and I understand that the gain in membership is pretty general all over the country, not only in our own trade but in all the trades. Laboring men are fast awaking to the fact that they must organize or starve. It is not to much to say that if laboring people were thoroughly organized, and well informed, they would hold the weal or woe of this country in the hollow of their hands, so to speak. If they were thoroughly organized they could do what they wished. If they were well informed they would wish to do away with the present industrial system that places a premium upon the shrewd rascality of the few, and forces a life of toil and privation upon the many. Fellow laboringmen, it is time you began to think. It is time you began to realize the conditions that are being forced upon the working people by organized capital. It is true that a number of workers have received an

advance in wages of about 10 per cent. 10 per cent would more than cover the proportion of advance workers have received, while an average of 20 per cent. would not cover the advance in the necessities of life controlled by organized capital. The industrial worker stands about as much show against organized capital as an ant under the heel of a giant. The only hope of the laboring man at present is thorough organization. Even thorough organization will not be an ideal state, but it is a long step that the laborer must take ere he can reach the ideal state, which is economic freedom. With all the laboring people of this country organized and working as one, they might demand what they would and no one would dare say them nay. Even with the imperfect organization we have at present, we have demanded and received consideration from the capitalist crowd, but not what we are entitled to by any means. At present the moneyed class law us out of our rights; they buy our legislative bodies, and our judges.

Our legislative bodies make laws and our judges break them, and between the two, controlled as they are by many, the laboring man is ground exceedingly fine, although he furnishes the power to keep them grinding. If we were thoroughly organized, so when the gnats did us an injury we could brush them aside, they would soon sing another tune. Our organizations, weak as they are, have given money-bags a severe fright already. That is why they are trying to fasten the octopus of a large army upon the country, they do not need the so-called recent acquisitions one-hundredth part as bad as they need an excuse for a large standing army, so somebody's sons can have fat jobs murdering the working man into submitting to starvation wages. There, my fellow laborers, is the real significance of the colonial policy now being inaugurated by the administration.

They think to hoodwink the patriotic suckers, as to the real reason for which they want a large standing army, which is to govern the people at home not the colonies, and the suckers bite of course. Some of them go and fight for the plutos, desires, and the rest stay at home and fight the wolf from their door and pay the cost of the war, and then all vote for the system that causes this shameful state of affairs. Truly the American sucker is caught with a very transparent bait.

R. R. TKIPP,  
Press Sec.

#### Local Union No. 57.

Quincy, Ill., Dec. 7, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

Well here we come again with just a few lines for our Worker. We have no kick as this is such unusually fine weather for December, and we enjoy it very much. Our worthy P. S. may find time to write some

this time, but John L. is a very busy man. He and Bro. Wagner are about the busiest inside wiremen in town. Bro. Hickman is at present employed as pastry cook at the Newcomb Hotel, one of the largest hotels in the city. So you see some of 67's boys can do more than pull wire. They can make doughnuts at least. Mrs. Hickman has been quite sick, but is better now. Bro. Redmond and Bro. Weinhoff are both in Missouri. Bro. Redmond is working in Lewistown and Bro. Weinhoff went for—well rumor has it that he was married a few days ago and of course he will soon be back to work. Here's all kinds of good luck to you, Joe. May you live long and prosper.

Bro. Peaker is in Hastings, Neb., working for the W. U. Tel. Co. Hank is O. K. in 67. We received dues to date from Bro. Faucett, who is permanently located at Kewanee but his family will be here until spring.

The electric light Co. here has laid off all but one or two linemen and ground hogs as well, so you see Quincy is just the same as no place to go for a job. Not enough inside work for our own men, either. You know I told you that Bro. Redmond went to Lewiston and Bro. Hickman to mixing dough. Bro. J. T. Johnston had the misfortune to fall through a plate glass window and badly cut three fingers, which laid him up eight days. A lucky fall though for Jim but the window, alas, a shattered mass of hats, caps and glass. We are all glad that Bro. Sherman was reelected our G. S., for he is certainly doing good work, is prompt and obliging, which all counts for good.

The Trades Assembly of Quincy is considering the question of a business agent or walking delegate. Each union affiliated with the assembly is asked to vote on the question. Sixty-seven is in favor of such an agent and cast a unanimous vote in his favor. Well, as news is scarce, and with the probability that John L. will write I will ring off, but must ask how many F. S.'s tried my plan to get Bro. Wright some cash. I am sure it is a very small job and am equally sure it will be gladly received by Bro. Wright and is money well spent. Remember the saying about casting bread upon the waters; also remember a good deed done is never thrown away.

I wish all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

#### TROUBLES.

#### Local Union No. 72.

Waco, Texas, Dec. 6, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

Local 72 is still growing. We took in three new members this month and have prospects of several more.

We were visited by two New Orleans brothers (No. 4), O. Blount and A. F. Dodge. With them was brother James Mack, of

No. 66, Houston, Tex. Also later on brothers Fulton and Boston dropped in with cards from Dallas.

Everything is moving along in good order. The Southwestern Telegraph and Telephone Company is still doing lots of work, and the Independent will start its exchange about the fifteenth of this month. We are moving along toward having an inspector in Waco.

The council has appointed the chief of the fire department as city electrician. He is not a practical man, but is going to bring about some changes. This is at least a move toward having an inspector and everybody will have to procure a license to do work.

We have just finished an opera house here that seats 3,400 people, and every bit of work from start to finish was done by union men. Scabs got on the job several times but everybody would quit instantaneously, and Mr. Scab would have to take his clothes and go.

Every day the Waco unions get stronger and before many moons we will have more money and less hours for inside wiremen, if your humble servant's eyes are not deceiving him.

We feel that the convention was a grand success and voted an approval of most of the changes proposed.

Hoping union might is growing elsewhere as in Waco, I remain,

Yours truly,  
HARRY E. HOBSON,  
P. S.

#### Local Union No. 75.

Grand Rapids, Mich., Dec. 1, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

No. 75 has been booming for the past four months; we have more than tripled our membership and they are still coming. There is not very much going on just now except the regular routine, the Bell Telephone Company having finished most of their rebuilding. Everything is so quiet just now that I must close for lack of news. Hoping to have more to say next month, I am, yours truly,

Press Sec.

#### Local Union No. 79.

Syracuse, N. Y., Dec. 7, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

Local No. 78. Well, that is about the highest on record, something new on the carpet which has come to stay. It took us three meetings to get organized, now we are in shape, as some one says, to make "Rome Howl." We have rounded in most of the outside men under our banner. There are a few bashful ones who hang back, but we can take care of them later.

The city contains about 50 linemen all told, out of which No. 79 has the grand majority of 42, with good prospects before the first of the coming year to catch the stragglers.

The new opposition telephone company

is setting the pace for the boys to make an effort to assert their rights, which we will test out at our next meeting, and we are confident of success. We have got things coming our way just now, and we mean to not let the opportunity give us the slip. We hold all the linemen of the new company and 90 per cent of the men from the old company, so I hope you all wish our effort will be a victory. We are like the proverbial worm, we suffered silently until the proper moment arrived when we finally squirmed to the front, to speak our piece and we have got to be heard.

I expect by the first of the new year we will enliven matters somewhat by giving a ball just to show those who are not acquainted with the obligations of our order that we are not anarchists, but a class of people who believe in being sociable. I hope that this may not be confined to the waste basket, that you may find a small corner between the covers to insert the first effort of,

Fraternally yours,  
D. J. CAMBRIDGE,  
Press Sec.

#### Local Union No. 83.

Milwaukee, Dec. 4, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

As the globe turns around it brings Local 83 to face her old place in the Electrical Worker once more. All the union boys are to work and I don't think an electrician has come to this city this summer or fall but who has got work, and most all the boys are union boys. New lights are added most every meeting night. There are quite a few brothers from the South but I think most of them will stay with us, as Milwaukee has her fair maidens and lager beer. We are now arranging a grand ball for December 23d. All other locals are invited.

This is my first letter, and the first one since 83 has been reorganized, but I have a few more words to say to the brothers. I am now approaching a subject that I hate to mention, but I think it more than a matter of justice. We had three men belonging to the Brotherhood who came here and got jobs from the Wisconsin Telephone Company. They were all busted, so they said to the landlord of the Northwestern hotel. He took them in and kept them two weeks, even paying for their laundry and furnished them with tobacco and fine drinks. Monday, October 2d, they put on their best clothes and went down to the store room as usual, drew their time and left on a street car, beating their board-bills. Their names are Wm. Mitton, with a card from No. 10, Indianapolis, bill \$8.70; Bob Mitton, from No. 9, Chicago, \$10.05; C. E. Cunningham, from No. 9, Chicago, \$17.65. Now, brothers, we members of 83 don't think this right. Wm. Mitton and Cunningham took cards out of 83, and we

would expel them if there was anything in the by-laws that would let us do so. There has been all kinds of men in here the past summer and they are the first to do a thing of this kind. Brothers, we ought to ignore such men. Written by a unanimous standing vote of the union. With regards to all honest linemen. Respectfully,

BARNEY CUMMINGS,  
Press Sec.

#### Local Union No. 84.

Atlanta, Ga., Oct. 12, '99.

Editor Electrical Worker:

As I have been appointed Press Secretary of No. 84 I will try to tell, through the Worker, of the progress we are making. Some three years since Local 29, of this place, failed, and it has been the opinion of most of the workers in these parts that a local could not be run successfully here; but they think differently now, for although we have only been reorganized three months, we are in good working order, with 65 or 70 members, and Atlanta is almost a solid union town. Out of 35 men now employed by the Bell Co., there are only two who do not belong, and I guess they think they are pensioners or stockholders. You all know there are always some men on the line who are willing to face either way to suit their cowardly principles. When it comes to a show-down, we have some of this kind here; or if they are not that kind they had better take in their sign. The Atlanta Federation of Trades has a child labor bill before the House of Representatives, and if we succeed in having this passed the men on the fence will halloo, "See what we have done."

We had only been organized a few days before Labor Day, but we made a showing that won us first prize. With an elegant float and the men dressed in white pants and ties and black shirts—well a finer-looking lot of men never followed Gov. Roosevelt up San Juan Hill. All the companies have our thanks for contributing instruments and lamps, wire and such things, to decorate our float with.

Our smoker on the 2d was a great success, both socially and financially. We got steamed up on good lager, with ham and Limburger cheese sandwiches for lunch; then paying dues, singing songs, speech making and clog dancing were in order, and general good feeling prevailed. Bro. Skaats presided and Bro. Henry Hatt was called on and made a most excellent address. Henry is the boy who can talk unionism when you get him started. The Redding brothers, Mr. Burr and others gave us some choice vocal music, Mr. Strand, of the tailors, made a good speech admonishing the boys to attend all meetings, Mr. E. B. Percell gave an account of his trip down through Coonskin county, where coon skins are a legal tender. For one coon skin you could get a pint of corn

whisky and two rabbit skins change. They split rails for 15 cents per 1,000 and left the country with a fine grub stake. Bro. Bookhimer, of the barbers, gave us in great shape "The Fall on the Barroom Floor;" Bro. Mike Riley, President of the Atlanta Federation of Trades, gave us an interesting talk, also Bro. Jerome Jones, editor of the Journal of Labor, who is a very fine talker, said some good things. Bros. C. C. Houston, Bidwell, Lindsay, Gowan and Brandy all made interesting speeches, and then Bro. Oholloran and Jim Wallace, Buckey Eagan and Drag. Newman, gave us the genuine Georgia cake walk. The Journal of Labor says these gentlemen should go on the road. And then, with much chewing and good humor, the greatest smoker of the season adjourned.

Bro. Tom Baker has been made city foreman for the Jacksonville, Fla., S. Bell Tel. Exchange; Tom Dysard has been made foreman for Stroyer Telephone Co., Augusta, Ga.; Snake Galliger, Joe Allen and Mr. Radyers have gone to Birmingham, Ala. Bro. Forty More has blown in for the winter. He has been building a small line out in the country. He says, while opossum hunting he found a moonshine distillery accidentally and it frightened him. He may be joshing about that; we all know 40.

Now a word to some of the boys up North who may be thinking of changing climate instead of clothes. Work is none too brisk here, even at the wages they pay, and if it is not too crimp you had better stay where you are at. Some of our boys are contemplating a trip to Cuba, and they have asked me to give them a few lessons in Spanish. I have referred them to Chas. Patten, Wm. Birdsall and Sam McCracken, three gentlemen who, to my own knowledge, paid five dollars each for swiping dictionaries in the city of Mexico.

Well, if anything turns up I will tell how it happened in my next month's letter.

Fraternally yours,  
UNCLE RASTUS.

**Local Union No. 86.**

Rochester, N. Y.

Editor Electrical Worker:

As this is the first letter from Local No. 86, I am sorry to say I am obliged to make it brief. At our first meeting held on November 5th, at the school rooms of the wiremen, the following officers were elected:

President, J. Guerinot.

Vice-President, F. Glynne, Jr.

Treasurer, H. Richmond.

Secretary, H. Wishart.

Financial Secretary, C. Graning.

Press Secretary, T. J. Keenan.

Foreman, G. Webber.

Inspector, H. Fowler.

Trustees, C. Vickery, A. Dennison, G. Major.

After installation we were given a short lecture by Bro. Wissinger, in regard to running a local property. He also gave the boys a few blackboard sketches of the different cases of trouble with which the wiremen come in contact, and how to find the cause of same. A vote of thanks was given to Bro. Wissinger for his aid in procuring our charter and also for the interest he took in our local. We now have twenty-seven charter members and we expect within a short time to add a few more lights. We meet every Tuesday evening in the Butts Building and we will be pleased to have the brothers of the I. B. E. W. pay us a visit. Hoping all members will pardon the writer for his first attempt, I will now pull the switch.

Fraternally yours,  
T. J. KEENAN,  
Press Sec.

**Local Union No. 89.**

Akron, O., Dec. 8, 1899.  
Editor Electrical Worker:

Hoping I am not too late, I will say enough to let the Brotherhood know that we have just come to light. We organized Nov. 23rd with eight shining lights and we have five applications and more are coming to-night. Last week we had no business meeting on account of our working tools not coming in time. We received our charter, etc., but no seal. As this is our meeting night we expect to be ready for business. As there is a good many linemen working here we expect to establish a thriving local. We have some brothers with cards to deposit. As this is my first attempt at writing to the journal, I hope you will correct mistakes and make up a good letter for the journal.

Yours fraternally,  
N. C. HAINS,  
Press Sec.

**ELECTRICITY IN THE WASHINGTON POST-OFFICE.**

Electricity will play an important part in the operation of the new city post-office which the government has just erected in Washington, D. C., at the cost of several million dollars. In fact, in this modern building, electricity is called to play an almost exclusive part, both in lighting and ventilation.

The engine equipment consists of four Buckeye horizontal tandem-compound engines, supplied with steam through eight-inch and 10-inch duplicate steam mains, provided with combined receiver and steam separators, delivering steam at about 100 pounds pressure. The engines turn at about 275 revolutions a minute, developing 150 horse power each, or a total of 600 horse power. They are connected directly to the shafts of four 100-kilowatt Thresher generators, each having capacity for 2,000 16 candle power incandescent

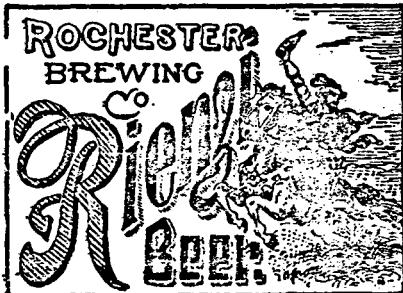
lamps. Both engines and generators, however, are calculated for an overload of at least 25 per cent. for a period of several hours, if called upon by any emergency.

The switchboard is of marble and contains a very complete outfit of instruments, switches and rheostats. On each floor smaller distribution tablets control groups of lights.

Throughout the building the ventilating fans are to be driven by motors operated by the current furnished by the plant, while the canceling machines, each capable of canceling from 20,000 to 25,000 letters an hour, are also electrically operated. There are at present seven of these machines in operation in the building.

Three electric elevators, designed to be operated variously from the second to the ninth floors, will also obtain their current from the plant. The melting of the large quantities of sealing wax used in the registry and other departments will also be performed by some satisfactory form of electric heater. The wiring of the building is run in steel conduits, buried in the floors or concealed in the walls of the building, and there has been used over 200,000 feet of conduits for this purpose.

The combination gas and electric-light fixtures in the building are by far the handsomest furnished any public building in the country, being specially designed to accord with the architectural features of the building. The handsome main screen in the first-floor corridor contains 101 three-light opalescent bullseyes to assist in the illumination of the public corridor.



## Directory of Unions.

Secretaries will please furnish the necessary information to make this directory complete. Note that the time and place of meeting, the name of the President, the names and addresses of the Recording and Financial Secretaries are required.

No. 1, St. Louis, Mo.—Meets every Monday at 604 Market st.; Pres., N. J. Roth, 5009 Morgan st.; R. S., Paul Ettinger, 1715 Market st.; F. S., P. C. Fish, 1927 N. 15th st.

No. 2, Kansas City, Mo.—Pres., A. C. Epper, 514 West 7th st.; R. S., C. L. Lord, 707 Campbell st.; K. C. Mo.; F. S., L. S. Gordon, 729 Elmwood ave.

No. 3, St. Louis, Mo.—Meets every Thursday at 604 Market st.; Pres., H. M. Lowden, 4301 St. Louis av.; R. S., J. T. O'Brien, Mo. Stock Exchange Hotel, Bremen ave.; F. S., J. Orr, 18 So 15th st.

No. 4, New Orleans, La.—Meets every Wednesday evening at Carondelet and Perdido sts.; Pres., Frank Dietrich, 928 Common street; F. S., H. W. Boyd, 724 Gaunt st.; R. S., H. Smith, 724 Camp st.

No. 5, Pittsburgh, Pa.—Meets every Friday night at K. of L. Hall, 432 Wood st.; Pres., W. A. William, 215 E. Ohio st.; Allegheny, Pa.; R. S., Frank Luuay, 610 E. Robinson st.; F. S., F. G. Randolph, 805 Walnut st., Station D, Pittsburgh.

No. 6, San Francisco, Cal.—Meets 2d and 4th Wednesdays at Foresters' Hall, 20 Eddy st.; Pres., George F. Keetley, 409 California st.; R. S., George Porter, 436 14th st.; F. S., R. P. Gale, 128 Fern ave.

No. 7, Springfield, Mass.—Meets every Wednesday at 14 Barnes Blk; Pres., G. T. McGilvray, 30 Besse Pl.; R. S., W. F. Kavanaugh, P. O. Box 54, Merrick, Mass.; F. S., M. Farrell, 59 Broad st.

No. 8, Toledo, O.—Meets every Monday at Friendship Hall, Pres., C. E. Marrott, 2030 Hewitt st.; R. S., E. F. Miller, 444 Hicks st.; F. S., F. M. Gensbacher, 813 Colburn st.

No. 9, Chicago, Ill.—Meets every Saturday at 83 Madison st., Hall 6; Pres., Henry Cullen, 53 Aberdeen st.; R. S., J. E. Foling, 5807 Union ave.; F. S., Joseph Driscoll, 77 Fuller st.

No. 10, Indianapolis, Ind.—Meets every Monday at Mazzari Hall, 39 S. Del. st.; Pres., John Barry, Fire Alarm Hdqrs.; R. S., W. O. Dudley, 1128 East Pratt st.; F. S., C. J. Langton, 801 West Pratt st.

No. 11, Waterbury, Ct.—Pres., W. A. Chase, 805 Main st.; F. S., W. K. Eldridge, 208 S. Elm st.

No. 12, Greater New York—Pres., Edw. Letham, 1007 Bedford av., Brooklyn; R. S., H. W. Knight, 145 Adeiphis st., Brooklyn; F. S., F. G. Orr, 36 7th ave., Brooklyn.

No. 14, Pittsburgh, Pa.—Meets every Tuesday evening at Mousehead Hall, cor. 2nd and Grant's st.; Pres., Wm. M. Eby, 50 Washington st.; R. S., C. Halves, 17 Bedford st.; F. S., F. D. Malone, 35 E. Robbins st., Allegheny, Pa.

No. 15, Jersey City, N. J.—Pres., W. J. Dooley, 415 West side ave.; R. S., H. Mauderville, 13 Frost st.; F. S., P. Shugue, 211 Bay st.

No. 17, Detroit, Mich.—Meets every Tuesday night at No. 32 Monroe av.; Pres., R. Scanlan, 185 Townsend av.; R. S., G. H. Brown, 50 Chester av.; F. S., George H. Jacobs, 84 Griswold st.

No. 18, Kansas City, Mo.—Meets every Friday night, Labor Hdqrs., 1117 Walnut st.; Pres., D. C. Jones; R. S., F. J. Costello; F. S., C. W. Stinson, addresses 1117 Walnut st., K. C., Mo.

No. 19, Atchison, Kan.—Meet in Home Plate Hall, 5th st.; Pres., P. J. Roth, 606 N. Tenth st.; F. S., K. E. Gaston, 801 North 9th st.; R. S., E. A. Wentworth.

No. 20, New York City.—Meets at 360 Fulton street, Brooklyn. President, H. Hallam, 365 8th st.; Brooklyn; R. S., Ed. Boyle, 601 Gates Ave., Brooklyn; F. S., J. W. Lindsay, 70 South 10th st., Brooklyn.

No. 21, Philadelphia, Pa.—Pres., Wm. McFadden, 3306 Melton st.; F. S., A. B. Du Bois, 2856 Hancock st.

No. 22, Omaha, Neb.—Meets every Wednesday at Labor Temple, 17th & Douglas sts.; Pres., W. P. Leedom, 2020 Grove st.; R. S., G. E. Russell, 2544 Reese st.; F. S., M. S. Thomas, 956 N. 57th av., Omaha, Neb.

No. 23, St. Paul, Minn.—Pres., J. H. Rodhouse, 150 Sherburne av.; R. S., Geo. Shoemaker, 136 E. Congress st.; F. S., A. H. Garrett, 175 Richmondst.

No. 24, Minneapolis, Minn.—Pres., O. R. Shortall; R. S., W. I. Heywood, 16 E. 26th st.; F. S., P. H. C. Wood, 2731 Fremont st.

No. 25, Louisville, Ky.—Meets first and third Thursdays of each month. Pres., Jos. Allin; F. S., Chas. Kincaid.

No. 26, Washington, D. C.—Meets every Wednesday at 1204 Penn av.; Pres., John Hofacker, 1007 N. Carolina av. S. R.; R. S., J. C. O'Connell, 390 M. st., N. W.; F. S., G. A. Malone, 45 L. st., N. W.

No. 27, Baltimore, Md.—Meets every Monday at 11th, cor. Fayette and Park ave. Pres., W. J. Harwood, 1133 Thomas ave.; R. S., W. W. Davis, 529 W. Mount st.; F. S., F. H. Russell, 1408 Aisquith st.

No. 28, Ft. Worth, Texas.—Pres., Lee Stevens, Standard Light & Power Co.; F. S., C. F. Cladrite, Fort Worth 10th & Light Co.; R. S., Martin Disher, 101 Houston st.

No. 29, Trenton, N. J.—Meets every Tuesday evening at Kibson Building. Pres., J. E. Quilligan; R. S., W. S. Wallace, 125 Boudinot st.; F. S., P. J. Carr, 58 Model ave.

No. 30, Cincinnati, O.—Meets 1st and 3d Mondays at 130 E. Court st.; Pres., Wm. Williams, 216 Kemper Lane; R. S., Wm. Price, 337 Hodge st., Newport, Ky.; R. S., Geo. R. Hildebrand, 403 E. 3rd st., Cincinnati Ohio.

No. 31, Duluth, Minn.—Pres., R. A. Nelson; R. S., J. H. McLaughlin; F. S., M. A. Hibbard, 1020 E. Fourth st.

No. 32, Lima, O.—Pres., O. C. Snyder, 812 High st.; R. S., W. C. Holmes, 110 Harrison ave., Lima, Ohio; F. S., E. Kraus.

No. 33, New Castle, Pa.—Meets every Monday night in the Caledonia Block.—Pres., S. A. Barto, 118 Country Line st.; R. S., H. C. Stockman, 11 Walnut st.; F. S., W. S. Devlin, P. O. Box 256.

No. 34, Peoria, Ill.—Pres., F. Church; F. S., E. H. Easign, 470 Hubbard st.; R. S., N. DeWorth.

No. 35, Boston, Mass.—Meets every Wednesday at 49 Bennett st.; Pres., Jos. Matthews; R. S., John McLaughlin, 213 Maverick st., E. Boston; F. S., R. H. Bradford, 19 Haskins street.

No. 36, Sacramento, Cal.—Meets 1st and 3d Tuesdays at Foresters' Hall. Pres., C. V. Schneider, 815 J st.; R. S., E. R. Strong, 2604 G. st.; F. S., D. Dickie, 2025 J street.

No. 37, Hartford, Conn.—Meets every Wednesday at 603 Main st.; Pres., W. H. Crawley, 23 Spring st.; R. S., M. P. Sullivan, 177 Asylum st.; F. S., J. Tracy, 58 Temple st.

No. 38, Cleveland, O.—Meets every Tuesday evening in Alwae Bldg, cor. Superior and S. Water sts. Pres., C. G. Kieffer, 442 Euclid ave.; F. S., Stephen Head, 142 Lawn st.; R. S., E. B. Horne, 50 Outwait st.

No. 39, Cleveland, O.—Pres., Dan Baldwin, 58 Mecca st.; R. S., John D. McLellan, 28 Lake st.; F. S., K. D. Mighell, 134 Browne st.

No. 40, St. Joseph, Mo.—Meets every Thursday night at Biokaw Hall, 5th and Locust sts. Pres., Wm. T. Wise, 720 N. 23rd st.; R. S., Wm. S. Dorset, St. R. Co.; F. S., Ed. McCarty, City Elec. L. Co.

No. 41, Buffalo, N. Y.—Meets every Wednesday at Council Hall. Pres., Wm. A. Breeze, 351 Vermont st.; R. S., R. A. Love, 130 Carroll st.; F. S., H. M. Scott, 646 Virginia st.

No. 42, Utica, N. Y.—Meets every Tuesday at 132 Genesee st. Pres., W. T. Carter, 27 Union st.; R. S., G. O. Carter, 26 Elm st.; F. S., P. Brigham, 116 Dudley ave.

No. 43, Syracuse, N. Y.—Meets 1st and 3d Tuesdays at McCarthy's Hall, Market st., opp. City Hall. Pres., John Kerwin, 311 Oneida st.; R. S., E. W. Lewis, 1320 S. State st.; F. S., Geo. A. Davenport, 203 Ontario st.

No. 44, Rochester, N. Y.—Meets 2d and 4th Tuesdays in Durand Bldg, W. Main st. Pres., J. P. Wolff, 9 Cedar st.; R. S., A. L. Denniston, 14 Baldwin st.; F. S., F. M. McNeil, 60 Frost ave.

No. 45, Buffalo, N. Y.—Meets 1st and 3d Saturdays at Council Hall. Pres., John Fossett, 427 Normal av.; R. S., M. E. Stable, 40 Kail st.; R. S., C. H. Great, 28 Division st.

No. 46, Lowell, Mass.—Meets every Thursday at 202 Merrimack st., 5th floor, room 5. Pres., Herbert L. Whitney, 6 Pfifer st.; R. S., Jas. Barrett, 17 First st.; F. S., H. F. Harding, 38 E. Pine st.

No. 47, Sioux City, Ia.—Pres., J. J. Sullivan, 1701 Center st.; R. S., A. Shortley, 1606 4th st.; F. S., K. H. Greer, 2301 11th st.

No. 48, Milwaukee, Wis.—Pres., F. G. Raymond, 600 Island av.; R. S., M. J. Quirk, 2718 Claybourne st.; F. S., O. C. Kersieret, 916 Richard st.

No. 49, Chicago, Ill.—Meets every Second and Fourth Tuesday at Jungs Hall 106 W. Randolph st. Pres., F. J. Straub, 2446 W. Ohio st.; R. S., W. J. Dempsey, 153 Trout street.; F. S., Chas. Fowler, 1186 N. Maplewood av.

No. 50, Memphis.—F. S., A. M. Kemish, 107 Polk st.

No. 51, Pittsburgh, Pa.—Meets first Sunday P. M. and third Friday evening at K of L. Hall, 432 Wood st. Pres., H. Sadler, 189 McClure ave., Allegheny, Pa.; R. S., Henry Moltz, Bennett Post Office, Allegheny, Pa.; F. S., F. Hauck, 1619 Washington av., Allegheny, Pa.

No. 52, Newark, N. J.—Meet first and third Fridays at Marcus L. Ward Hall, 82-84 Belleville ave. Pres., F. J. McNulty, 179 North 2nd st., Newark, N. J.; R. S., O. J. Snyder, 325 West st., W. Hoboken, N. J.; F. S., S. T. K. Van Horn, 18 Washington av., Bloomfield, N. J.

No. 53, Harrisburg, Pa.—Pres., C. A. Swager, 1156 Market st.; R. S., Jas. Hamminger, 25 N. 15th st.; F. S., C. Andeson, 46 Summit st.

No. 54, Columbus, O.—Meets every Wednesday evening at Heiderman Hall, 180½ E. Town st. Pres., Chas. Baumhauer, 184 S. Gift st.; F. S., Geo. R. Brecher, 278 E. Long st.; R. S., J. A. Brambes, 2370 Apple st.

No. 55, Des Moines, Ia.—Meets every Thursday night at Trades Assembly Hall. Pres., Jas. Martin, Mutual Tel. Co.; F. S., Wm. Callahan, 42 Chestnut st.

No. 56, Erie, Pa.—Meets 1st and 3d Wednesdays. Pres., H. M. Kistner, 1017 Holland st.; R. S., H. D. Person, 1117 Peach st.; F. S., J. F. St. Clair, 711 Chestnut st.

No. 57, Salt Lake City, Utah—Pres., J. R. Blair, 258 S. 2nd east st.; R. S., J. Hodgson, 823 E. 6th st. south; F. S., Jas. Hodgson, 823 E. 36th st.

No. 58, Niagara, Falls, N. Y.—Meets 2d and fourth Monday in Odd Fellows Hall. Pres., H. Anderson; R. S., Charles Mingay, 303 Ninth st.; F. S., C. Gent, 9 Arcade.

No. 59, Chicago, Ill.—Meet every other Saturday at Koch's, 1 a. 102 E. Randolph st.—F. S., E. Hayes, 531 37th st.

No. 60, San Antonio, Tex.—Meets 1st and 3d Saturdays at 8 p. m., in Paine's Hall, 1131 Soldad st. Pres., Matt E. McElroy, 1725 W. Commerce st.; R. S., John H. Kraft, 1302 N. Flores st.; F. S., Chas. E. McNemar, 818 Av. D.

No. 61, Los Angeles, Cal.—Pres., P. Buchanan, 357 N. Main st.; R. S., W. A. Woodis, Box 84 Station B; F. S., S. L. Bruse, 441 Colton st.

No. 62, Youngstown, O.—Pres., G. F. Hartman, 609 Covington st.; R. S., J. W. Palmer, 257 E. Wood st.

No. 63, Warren, Pa.—Meets 1st and 3d Wednesdays at D. O. H. Hall, cor. 2d and Liberty sts. Pres., F. W. Lesser, Liberty st.; R. S., R. Y. Eden, Reverend House; F. S., N. H. Spencer, Rogers Bld.

No. 64, Oakland, Cal.—F. S., W. P. Olmsted, Eureka Hotel; R. S., J. H. Oley, 1012 14th st.

No. 65, Bute, Mont.—Meets 2d and 4th Fridays at 18th Assembly Hall, 118th st. Pres., F. S., W. H. Wilson.

No. 66, Houston, Tex.—Meets 1st and 3d Mondays. Pres., Geo. Schuhs; R. S., F. A. Peters; F. S., W. H. Wilson.

No. 67, Quincy, Ill.—Meets 2d and 4th Wednesdays at 17th Assembly Hall, 118th st. Pres., J. H. Nessler, 527 Madison Lane; J. M. Reimond, 825 Jersey st.; F. S., C. H. McMeece, 5th 7th st.

No. 68, Denver, Col.—Meets Monday nights at 1731 Arapho st., Club Bldg.; Pres., C. W. Armstrong, 631 30th ave.; R. S., T. B. Spilliss, 1736 Champee st.; F. S., Chas. Sallstrom, 6.8 28th av.

No. 69, Dallas, Tex.—Meets every Tuesday evening at Labor Hall Pres., F. B. Barnes, 147 Akard st.; R. S., Wm. E. Burton, 347 Main st.; F. S., Chas. Trotter, 12 W. 5th st., Station A.

No. 70, Cripple Creek, Col.—Meets every Wednesday night in Banquet Hall, Masonic Temple. Pres., C. Haas, Fremont Elect. Co.; R. S., Joseph E. Hicks, 407 Colorado av.; F. S., John T. Walters, Telephone Building.

No. 71, Galveston, Tex.—Meets 2d and 4th Fridays at Union Hall. Pres., O. Lorenzo, 1606 Tremont st.; R. S., G. L. Monford, 3624 ave. O. ½; F. S., W. D. Cuning, 2122 ave. P. ¼.

No. 72, Waco, Tex.—Meets second and fourth Wednesdays at Labor Hall. Pres., J. E. Caple, 1018 N. 7th st.; R. S., C. F. Marrs, 1215 Baylor st.; F. S., Joseph Hodges, 1603 North 5th street.

No. 73, Spokane, Wash.—Meets 1st and 3d Wednesdays in Eagier Hall. Pres., G. Magic, Room 5, Gaudy Block; R. S., L. Van Inwegen, 919 Ash st.; F. S., D. Lorimer, 1723 Fifteenth st.

No. 74, Winona, Minn.—Pres., Jos. Trautner, 620 3rd st.; R. S., J. P. Omm, 510 Olmstead st.; F. S., M. B. Klein, 510 Olmstead st.

No. 75, Grand Rapids, Mich.—Meets 1st and 3d Wednesdays of each month. Pres., W. W. Wise, 351 N. Ionia st.; R. S., Jos. Newman, Jr., 16 Kennedy st.; F. S., C. E. Post, 48 Boswick st.

No. 76, Tacoma, Wash.—Pres., Wm. Kauz, 1136 D st.; R. S., W. J. Love, 113 10th st.; F. S., J. M. Duley, 3803 Thompson av.

No. 77, Seattle, Wash.—Pres., John Agutie, Fremont, Wash.; R. S., George H. Politz, 351 W. Adams st.; R. S., W. T. Tonner, 1479 W. Ohio st.

No. 78, Chicago, Ill.—Pres., G. W. Lebin, 1551 Carroll av.; F. S., George H. Politz, 351 W. Adams st.; R. S., Jas. G. Maitland, 2509 4th ave.

No. 79, Syracuse, N. Y.—F. S., C. B. Tyrrell, 503 Hickory street.

No. 80, Norfolk, Va.—Pres., C. W. Breedlove, 53 Fairland st., Norfolk, Va.; F. S., Pitt, 210 N. Marshall st.; F. S., C. H. Boush, 161 Boewer st.

No. 81, Scranton, Pa.—Pres., W. K. Clearwater, 345 Pearl st.; F. S., B. C. Hackett, 114 North Hyde Park av.

No. 82, Binghamton, N. Y.—Pres., C. C. Van Dusen, 10 Curley st.; F. S., D. Hinds, 233 Clinton st.; M. S., A. Gregory, 117 Chenango st.

No. 83, Milwaukee, Wis.—Pres. George R. Witch, 371 2nd av.; R. S., H. P. Mock, 172 Huron st.; F. S., S. Lawrence, 491 Jefferson st.

No. 84, Atlanta, Ga.—Pres., Etheredge, 76 First st.; F. S., O. A. Donehoo, 32 Larkie st.; R. S., A. S. Spatz, Jonesboro, Ga.

No. 85, Augusta, Ga.—Pres. B. Mitchell, 1249 Telair st.; F. S., J. T. Woodward, Bush House.

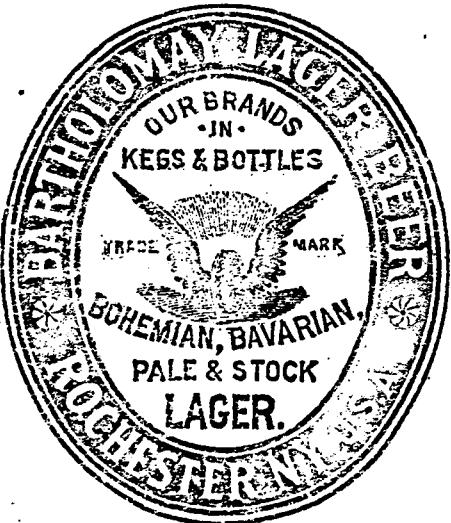
No. 86, Rochester, N. Y.—Meet in Tutts Bldg. every Tuesday evening. Pres., J. G. Grot, 120 Campbell st.; F. S., C. Graining, 8 N. Alexander st.; R. S., H. Wishart, 36 East st.

No. 87, Newark, N. J.

No. 88, Savannah, Ga.—Pres., R. J. McDonald, 109 E. Calhoun st.; F. S., W. R. Bartley, 405 Parry st. west.

No. 89, Akron, O.—Meets at Youngs Hall, N. Howard st. Pres., J. S. T. Burns' Arlington H. tel.; R. S., M. W. Jennings, 310 N. Maple st.; F. S., N. H. Herrick, 256 N. Main st.

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